

# Public Libraries

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## Our Appeal as a Profession?\*

John H. Leete, director, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Just what is a profession and who is a professional? I have heard the term used to include the barber, the window-dresser, the undertaker, the piano tuner, the manicurist, the dancer, the card-shark, the politician, as well as the doctor and the lawyer, the preacher and the teacher. To be called a professional may mean either the highest mark of distinction or the lowest depth of opprobrium. To be a professional gambler lays one open to fine and imprisonment. Then too, we have the curious anomaly that the ball-player who is properly designated as a professional is not practising a profession. We even have had the professional fool. Before tagging our calling as a professional it may be well therefore to determine whether the tag is a scholar's gown or a clown's motley.

Herbert Spencer tells us that the profession was a late comer in the evolution of society. First came the defense of life from external enemies, then the regulation of life thru orderly government, then the sustentation of life thru the organization of production and trade. Then, these having been achieved, he asks, "What further general function is there?" and answers his own question by saying, "There is the augmentation of life; and this function it is which the professions in general subserve." In Spencer's scheme, the priesthood was the father of all professions and originally practised all of them. Then as learning increased, specialism of necessity devel-

oped and the professions as we know them came into existence. With the evolution of the several professions we are not concerned further than to note the fact that they all had to do with the augmentation, the enlargement and enrichment of life. The physician and scientist make life more safe, the artist and the poet make it more beautiful, the teacher and the man of letters make it more intelligent. The enlargement and enrichment of life then is the purpose of existence of the professions.

This theory of the evolution of the professions gives us a starting point for our consideration of the characteristics of a profession but leaves undetermined many lines between non-professional and professional occupations. It does not give us any definite basis for drawing the line between the draftsman and the architect, or between the bookkeeper and the accountant, or between the stone mason and the sculptor. It evidently is not solely a question of the quantity of ability and preparation since all teachers are placed without debate in the professional class regardless of the extent of their preparation or the comparative difficulties of the different subjects taught. Again, all actors from the cheapest barn-stormer to the greatest tragedian are called professional; likewise all writers whether they write obituaries or eternal classics.

Yet we all do distinguish between the professional and the non-professional calling. We have no uncertainty in saying to the most skillful stone cutter, you

\*Read before American Library Institute, April 28, 1922.

are an artisan, and to the most unartistic sculptor, yours is a profession. We do not question the professional standing of all teachers regardless of their individual attainments. The basis of that judgment, it seems to me, is the qualifications required of the ideal member of any calling. To be the ideal stone cutter does not require professional attainments; to be the ideal sculptor does. To be the ideal sign painter does not demand what we regard as professional qualities; to be the ideal artist does. The barn-storming actor and the incompetent teacher are carried into the profession by the ideal actor and teacher. It seems evident therefore that professional rank is determined by the qualities demanded in the ideal follower of a calling. The question is then, what are the characteristics of this ideal professional man?

The professional man sells ideas, opinions, and judgments—that is, his special knowledge. "Dig your canal here," from the engineer; "Do this and you'll recover," from the physician; "That's within your legal rights," from the lawyer—it is such ideas and judgments that constitute the stock in trade of the professional man. It is his specialized knowledge which the artist expresses in his picture, the sculptor in his statue, the historian in his annals, and the poet in his verse. This is what makes the picture something more than paint and canvas, the statue something more than marble, the history something more than a bald record, the verse something more than a rhythmic jingle. Expert knowledge, then, is one mark of a professional man.

But intensive knowledge of one thing cannot be built upon extensive ignorance of all other fields. The broad and sound foundation of liberal education which must first be laid constitutes a second characteristic of the professional man. The artisan learns his trade by rule of thumb. The principles involved can be mastered in a few days or possibly hours. The only increment the subsequent years bring him is greater skill and facility. The professional man must spend years in study, much of it bearing but remotely

upon his profession, before he is ready even to begin his professional education. You recall the incident of the young pianist who went to Liszt and played to him one of Beethoven's sonatas and asked him what she should do to perfect her playing. Liszt's advice was not "run the scale" but "read Shakespeare." And even when the candidate for a profession has completed his formal education he must continue the attitude and habits of the student. For him education is not a state of being but a process of becoming. Ruskin once said that we take no delight in a picture which does not give us an open window, an open door, or some other outlook upon the infinite sky. The education of the professional man must follow that prescription and give him an outlook upon the infinities of knowledge.

A third characteristic of the professional man is that he values his work for its opportunity for service, not for the reward it brings. Indeed, in the pioneer days of the professions, it was the custom not to name a fee but to leave the question of compensation to the honor of the patron. While to-day it is only a Billy Sunday who can safely depend upon the freewill offering for payment, it is still true that in the professions the reward is secondary to love of the work for its own sake and that eminence is more to be desired than affluence. Giving, not getting, is the keynote of the professional attitude. It would be revolutionary for a merchant to say, "If you need that, take it—take the best. If you can't pay, I'll give it to you." Yet just that thing is done every day by men of the highest standing in the professions, and it is their best service that is given, too; for the professional man has no other grade of service. It is the happiness that comes from service to others that constitutes one of the great attractions of the professions.

With that passion for service is almost invariably linked in every professional man the desire to impress his personality upon the community. He has special knowledge which is in demand by others and that very fact gives him a definite

lead in the race for leadership. Then, too, the conscientious doctor, the lawyer, and the engineer often has to think not only of the selfish interests of his patient or client, but of the general good of the public, and when these two interests are in conflict, as sometimes happens, he must place the general welfare first. That attitude of public spiritedness adds to his standing in the community. His training, his work, his desire to serve, his public spiritedness, all not only fit him for leadership, but tend to breed in him a desire for that leadership.

There are other characteristics of professional work but those we have mentioned seem to me to be the essential distinguishing marks. Does library work fulfill these requirements? Not ideally in all respects we shall have to admit. But for that matter there are misfits and mistakes in all professions. There are doctors who ought to be operating only on Wall street, lawyers only capable of practicing at a bar illegal since July 1918, and ministers who ought to be selling insurance for this life rather than offering guarantees for the life to come. Yet all these misfits are securely sheltered beneath the robe of the profession. May not the shortcomings of the librarian be mercifully hidden under that same gown? The real question is: Does the ideal librarian fulfill the standard of professional requirements? Does the ideal librarian augment life? Does he require liberal education and special training? Does he use his special knowledge in the service of others? Does that service to others constitute the happiness of the ideal librarian? It seems beyond question in my mind that the answer to all these questions is "Yes" and that librarianship is truly a profession.

But I am not interested in this subject merely as an academic question. As Jack Bunsby says, "The bearings of this observation lays in the application on it." Here is the situation. Almost if not quite without exception, other professions are overcrowded. It has been stated that in proportion to population there are four times as many physicians in the United

States as in Germany. It has been estimated that there are at least three times as many lawyers as are needed to transact the legal business of the country and the National Bar Association is attempting to restrict the number of candidates for the bar. When that happy day comes when it makes no difference whether the collar of your spiritual adviser buttons in front or at the back, we could reduce the number called to the ministry without serious spiritual or economic loss. Judging by the trials of the literary profession in making a living, as well as by the difficulties of the library in finding funds to purchase their product, there is no dearth of aspirants for the Nobel prize. I have no doubt that enough paint has been wasted by would-be artists to reduce materially the cost of living of the modern woman. And so we might go on to picture in detail the long line of raw material asking admission to our medical schools and our law schools and to the other professional factories. Think of recruiting for the law or indeed for any of the major professions!

But here on the other hand is the library profession, a profession requiring as exacting training as any of these overcrowded callings, with wide opportunities for service, and with a kind of service that brings a joy and delight that every enthusiastic librarian knows. Here is this profession of ours begging for recruits. And even worse than that, we are not even successful beggars. I do not mean simply that there are vacant positions to be filled, tho that is still true to some degree even in these days of unemployment. I mean rather that we are not attracting strong college men and women to the profession in anything like the numbers the work demands or to an extent even remotely comparable with other professions. In some of the great universities which offer library training, a bare handful of recruits is obtained. Why is it? Can this situation be improved and how? Why don't we get our quota of the strong men and women looking toward a profession?

At the outset I will have to admit that the librarian does suffer one handicap.

The minister sees a concrete result of his labors, and a most satisfying one, in a single convert to morality and right living. The doctor sees the sick patient made well, a deformity removed, the agony of pain relieved. The teacher sees the ignorant freshman become an all-wise senior. The writer has his book, the artist his painting, the sculptor his statue, the architect his beautiful building, the engineer his canal. The librarian may have helped with all these creations but his name doesn't appear on the tablet. He can point only to his circulation statistics. That is a real handicap in our appeal as a profession, for one does like to see in the concrete the results of his labors. Librarianship requires more idealism and self-effacement than is true of other professions.

But there are other answers to this question, "Why don't we get them?"

If we ask the librarian, the first answer will in the majority of cases be—the salaries are too low to attract them. This is probably partly true but it is much less true generally than it was five years ago. And in the case of many libraries it is not at all true. We all have thought and discussed and written much upon this question. I will not dwell upon it farther than to say, whether or not the inadequacy of our salaries is the most important factor, it is not the only consideration operating against the choice of librarianship.

This opinion is verified by the answers that have been made me in response to the inquiry "Why don't you take up library work?" These answers may be grouped roughly as follows:

Never thought of it (the most frequent answer).

Too much routine. It looks like a clerk's job.

It's too slow. A man wants to do things.

It's too circumscribed. Not enough outlook and chance for initiative.

It doesn't give a chance to get into the active life of the community.

These are all actual answers to direct inquiries and in some cases are exact quotations. We, who know the

demands and the opportunites and the possibilities of the library, know that these answers are not in accordance with facts. But even if we agree that they are all the result of ignorance of library work, that fact in itself is not exactly flattering. Why have not these young men and women, most of whom have made use of our services, ever thought of us when choosing their own avenue of service? Why do they think that we have no contact with active life? Are we so slow? Don't we do things? Have we no outlook or initiative?

I shall not attempt to answer these questions. Our problem is to find the reason for these misconceptions, and their remedy. How can we show that these limitations, whether or not they exist in us, are not inherent in library work?

The first and I fear the most permanent impression obtained by the casual visitor to the library is routine details. We carefully conceal behind closed doors most of the features of our work which have any appearance of professionalism or involve the opening of a book beyond the title-page. Every one in sight is engaged in routine tasks. Formerly it was possible for the uninformed public to distinguish between the page and the librarian, by the abbreviation of the page's costume. But now even that distinguishing mark is lacking. A discerning eye can discover degrees of authority, it is true, but to all appearances it is all a matter of good housekeeping which requires only a knowledge of the call number and the arrangement of the books on the shelves. It is the unusual situation and the rare patron that make any real demand upon the professional knowledge of the librarian. Our chief contact with the public too often calls only for library technique, a trade, and not for professional knowledge. It is not strange, therefore, that the public is impressed more by the niceness of our work than by its professional character.

The remedy is obvious. The work must be so organized that the routine is performed by routine assistants, and that



the professional librarian gives the public professional service. It should not be necessary to depend upon labels—"I am a clerk. I know nothing of books" and "I am a librarian. I know everything about books." Their work should make impossible any question upon that point. The librarian must make opportunity to express his expert opinion and to use his special knowledge. But you say the staff is inadequate and we have no choice—the routine work must be done. But the big thing has at least an equal right to our attention and effort. This bigger thing of professional service must also be done if we are to make an appeal as a profession.

Moreover, if we would remove the misconceptions of the public with regard to the true character of our work we must not confine that professional service within the library walls. We must bring that special knowledge we profess to bear upon the activities and problems of the community. The library has something to offer every civic problem, every public welfare impulse, every educational movement, every group interest, every active force in the community. Indeed, unlike the lawyer who may serve but one side of a controversy, we have something for both the prosecution and the defense. That means that the opportunity for service to organizations and groups that are doing things is ready at hand for the live librarian who would make the library a force in community affairs. All we have to do is to establish the contact and then follow it up with definite service. But to make that contact we must leave the quiet of our library and go out into the camps of the Philistines, to women's clubs and civic leagues and Americanization centers and all the other centers of community activities. The library is doing this to some extent. We are doing things. Unfortunately, due to the pressure of other duties upon the staff (again the everlasting routine), our efforts are spasmodic and somewhat superficial in many cases. To accomplish effective results there must be some one who shall devote all his time and effort to the accomplishment of this work.

When we have arrived at the point where all matters requiring our professional services are referred to the library as automatically as questions of public health are referred to the physician, we shall have made a great gain in our standing as a profession.

But the energetic and ambitious college man or woman wishes something more than opportunity for service in a professional organization. He wishes standing in the community as an individual. He wishes an opportunity to impress himself upon the affairs of his town or city. If the library is to make as strong an appeal as other professions it must offer him equal opportunity in this direction. Judging by results, his present opinion is that we do not offer him equal opportunity. Just why he should think that the library does not offer him opportunity for leadership is not evident unless it be the result of the rather conservative position and more limited influence of the library of the past. To-day, as Mr Dana has recently said, the librarian "can be more than a librarian to the community. He can act as a leader in public thought." It is true that in controversial matters the library may only hold the torch that lights the way to the just solution of the controversy; but surely even this service is of value. Moreover there are many public movements which are not controversial and in which the library can and ought to be cast for something more than the role of torch bearer.

But even in controversial matter in which the library must be non-partisan, the librarian is not deprived of his rights as an individual citizen. Surely he is not doomed to be a spineless individual without opinion, belief, or enthusiasm, a nonentity in the life about him. Nor is he compelled to lock tight his opinions in his own mind and keep his beliefs and enthusiasms in cold storage. He must be devoid of prejudices, but he need not be a man without a country and without a religion. We may have enthusiasm. We are permitted to advocate a cause. If the non-partisanship of the library has unconsciously affected our attitude

as individuals, that mistake must be rectified. An example of leadership would do much to attract strong men and women to the profession.

The man who thinks library work is circumscribed, that it is slow, that it makes no draft upon originality and initiative, that it offers no chance to "do things," is far from the truth. The only explanation of such an attitude can be ignorance of the ideals and possibilities of the library of to-day. The only justification for such an opinion can be that we ourselves sometimes have taken that same narrow circumscribed view of our job. We need vision—vision to see the big problems of the library—the problem of making the book a greater inspiration and a more effective servant to the people of the community and of bringing the community to a deeper appreciation and love of the book. Then we need resourcefulness and energy and courage to make that vision a reality. A great vision and a fighting spirit would bring us many recruits.

I have left until last the remedy that probably has been first in the minds of many of you—publicity. I have not left it until the last from any lack of appreciation of its importance. Indeed it seems to me that the appeal of librarianship to the professionally inclined man and woman probably fails more from lack of understanding of our work and its possibilities than from any other cause. Enlightenment is the remedy. They must be made to think of us. I have left it to the last, however, because it seems to me that the nature of our appeal must first be determined before we attempt to voice that appeal. Publicity for mere publicity's sake is of no value. "The voice of one crying in the wilderness" would not have come ringing thru the centuries had it not borne a definite message. To bring into our ranks professionally inclined men and women we must show that it is a professional job

we are doing. Emphasis of the professional character of our work by example and then publicity that helps to make known that professional character seems to me the effective program. We must convince them of the bigness of our work and the resulting need of thoroly educated and technically trained men and women. We must emphasize an opportunity for service that brings contact with the live forces of the community. We must show the necessity of initiative, brains, and personality. We must hold out to them the possibility of leadership. In short, we must show them that ours is a job that offers genuine opportunity to the very strongest men and women. That kind of publicity will do much toward bringing us not reluctant recruits but enthusiastic volunteers.

Our appeal as a profession is of vital importance to library work. You remember that Bacon once said, "I hold every man a debtor to his profession." One way of meeting our debt to our profession might well be to do something to bring added strength to our professional appeal. I am convinced that the greatest impetus we could receive toward the full possibilities of the library would come from the entrance into our ranks of an adequate number of enthusiastic, live, energetic, liberally educated and thoroly trained librarians of the strongest professional type. It was the devotion and vision of strong and able men and women in the long bleak winter of early library history that made possible the welcome warmth of spring we are now enjoying. To realize the possibilities of the greater library of to-day we need the strongest and ablest of the present generation of college graduates for service in the ranks to-day and for leadership to-morrow. To get them we must convince them by precept and by example that the library offers them opportunity for professional service and for individual leadership.

## What Is the Educational or Moral Value for Boys and Girls in Reading the Books About the American Indian?\*

R. Ray Baker, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Publishers of adult literature strive to give the public what it wants. Their main problem is to keep in tune with the fickle readers, ascertaining what is craved in the way of reading material, and then procuring it for them.

With juvenile literature the task is more difficult. In this field the editors not only must consider what the readers desire, but what is good for them, and an effort is made to govern their tastes as well.

Working on this basis, publishers of the best class of juvenile reading practically have barred crime from the pages of their books and periodicals. This is particularly true of the magazines, for acceptance of a year's subscription is in effect a guarantee to the parents that the boy or girl's morals will receive protection insofar as the table of contents is concerned.

As a result, the boys of America are not permitted to have detectives for heroes, because detective stories must of necessity involve criminals, and often murder. For the same reason, the girls of America cannot read gushing romance and sentimental love. All of which restrictions are proper.

So the taking of life is barred from high-class juvenile publications, except in the case of bear, deer, rabbits, tigers, lions, elephants, etc. Some, however, go a step further and permit the killing of Indians by white men and of whites by Indians. Few indeed are the tales of redmen that do not have racial enmity as the theme; the two have, in fact, been so persistently associated together in fiction that they are almost synonymous in the minds of the average boy or girl reader.

Now, just what kind of moral can be taught by tales of Indian fighting? There may be a variety, but the lesson

overshadowing all other is simply this: It is wrong to be red and right to be white.

It is not my purpose to submit a brief for the aborigine, but it appears to me that he has not been given a square deal by the writers who are helping to mould the minds of the young. He has been pictured too often as wielding a tomahawk and too seldom as puffing on the calumet. Usually he is seen at his worst, when all his evil passions are aflame, and American youth is more than half convinced that, as has been observed by some wise philosopher, the only good Indian is a dead one, forgetting that a native chief has been quoted as saying that "there probably are some good white men, but the majority must be bad, because the majority rule."

Different natures will, of course, react differently to the tale of frontier battles, but certainly all young readers will be shocked by the atrocities. These atrocities invariably are committed by the Indians, according to the fiction page, altho history shows that the whites, in many instances, were equally cruel and ruthless in hostilities with the reds. Also this type of literature has a tendency, it would seem, to propagate the idea of racial hatred in an age when efforts are being made to lift the curtain on the dawn of universal peace.

It is not my contention that children never should read of strife, but it should be among individuals rather than among races, if an uplifting lesson is to be driven home. No boy or girl that is normal cares to read of mollicoddles; they have a right to red-blooded literature, but this does not necessarily imply blood-curdling literature, in which men of different races are ever seeking an opportunity to leap at one another's throats. The moral taught by that kind of material is at best a nega-

\*Read at Conference on children's reading at Grand Rapids, May, 1922.

tive one; there cannot be anything inspiring about it.

Now, would it not be better to shelve the fiction in which the Indian is painted as a demon, and leave the wars to the historian? On the whole, this class of writers appears to have made an earnest attempt to give the Indian a fair show. Nearly all of these books that have come into my hand are the product of conscientious investigators, who deal with racial strife, as it needs must be in such volumes, but who also analyze causes and effects and permit the reader to see situations thru the eyes of both the white and red.

It is difficult to speak in generalities when discussing the moral and educational value of juvenile literature dealing with the Indian, because of the wide variety of themes that may be presented. As I have observed, there appears to me to be little of either moral or educational uplift in the stories of frontier wars, but there are plenty of other Indian topics replete with lessons inspirational to the minds of the young. However, on the whole I can see little in even the most desirable type of the literature under discussion that will tend to broaden children along purely educational lines, except insofar as it gives them a knowledge of the Indian character, his history, his home life and his philosophy.

In the scientific field, of course, the Indian was a child. No doubt his superstitions were obstacles there.

In the way of success, as regarded from a pecuniary standpoint there is no benefit to be derived from studying the redman. He was not thrifty, living largely from hand to mouth, and he can give no hints on the making of millionaires or governors.

There are, nevertheless, some points to be brought out:

First, a study of the Indian character will lead to the conviction that human nature primarily loves peace, no matter how much he may be obliged to fight. The Indians, untouched by contemporary conflicts in the old world, were, it is true, engaging in hostilities among

themselves, but there are many incidents related both in history and mythology to show that they constantly were making attempts to bring about harmony between the various tribes, so that the redman might dwell in domestic tranquility, wrest his livelihood from the forest and stream, and worship his divinity in the way he considered proper. In "The song of Hiawatha," at the very beginning is an account of an attempt to abolish war, and history tells us of the Iroquois league, which was in reality a league of nations whose basis was a desire for universal peace, altho war was used as the instrument. Then there is the outstanding incident of William Penn and the wampum belt, which is an illuminating example of the redman's earnest effort to keep faith and peace with the white man. These things are valuable educationally, in that they show humanity as a whole is inherently opposed to conflict.

Then there is the Indian religion. The aborigines, in their primeval state, were considered pagans, and doubtless many of them were. However, some of the tribes, particularly those in the Iroquois confederacy, held many ideas which, tho crude, are associated primarily with Christian belief. For instance, the Iroquois had one god, who was omnipotent, beneficent and permeated the universe and most of the tribes of North America held a belief in immortality and a heaven which they designated as the "Happy Hunting Grounds." Also the mythology of various tribes contains legends of a Messiah. This is broadening intellectually to the child, because it will cause him to wonder how these savages, as we call them, isolated by far stretches of water from the Old World countries, where Christianity itself was being spread, obtained their ideas. And wonder is the greatest stimulant to broadening of intellect.

The Indians had, of course, their agriculture to a limited degree, and their arts, including music, dancing and story telling, and in the Pueblo

and Aztec regions had attained a high state of progress in architecture; but study of these by the child have value principally in giving knowledge of the Indians themselves, altho they do afford some educational benefits, in the larger interpretation of the term, by showing the influence that environment and climate have had on development of the human race. It also is enlightening to learn of the Indian's systems of jurisprudence, which reveal that human nature strives primarily to be just; and to boys and girls who will some time become voters in a republic, it is worth while to take account of the efforts toward democratic rule put forth by many of the tribes whose members were the original Americans.

There is no type of story that can have more beneficial moral effects than that concerning the Indian, provided it is sincerely and accurately done.

I have in mind two pieces of literature which I hold to be ideal in this regard. One is Longfellow's epic with which everybody is acquainted, and the other is a little story published in *St. Nicholas* in December, 1900. The title of the latter is *Waukewa's Eagle*, and the author is James Buckham. It teaches a moral of the most elevating kind—that it pays to treat wild creatures with kindness, and it depicts the merciful side of the Indian nature. There should be more of this type of story.

Instead of trying to analyze the moral value of Indian literature as a whole, let us take up the lessons that can be and ought to be taught in truthfully portraying the redman.

First, there is the spirit of fair play, which is in reality the fundamental basis of all good character. The Indian had this spirit and every American boy and girl should possess it.

Another admirable trait of the Indian was his deliberation. He usually thought well on a subject before he acted.

Stories about the Indian can teach much of friendship, for he would die for the sake of a friend and would de-

fend him against physical and verbal enemies.

Unselfishness is another characteristic of the redman which can do much, if stressed in stories, to mould the character of white young people as we would have it moulded. Coupled with this admirable quality was the spirit of hospitality. A guest was welcome to all that his host had.

The Indian would perish rather than betray a trust, he had respect for his elders, and he was brave.

It is not my argument that the Indian should be pictured as a paragon of virtue, any more than that authors should make him a fiend incarnate. He had his faults, and they were many, but these too, can be used by writers whose works help in the formation of children's character.

There is no denying that he had a cruel side to his nature with a pronounced passion for revenge, and that he was an artist at devising tortures. These bad qualities, however, did not become predominant except when he felt himself to be suffering from some grievous wrong. They came to the surface principally during warfare when he was defending his lands against the white invaders, but every nation and race is at its worst during war, which is cruel at best.

Also he was a boaster, and with him lying became an art; but this boasting or falsifying simply was an outlet for his vivid imagination; and seldom did his auditors place much credence in the tales of daring and bravery that were related about the campfire. As a rule, he scorned to lie when the lie would injure another, even tho it be an enemy.

The Indian was fond of firewater, and was not responsible for conduct while under its influence; but it must be remembered that the white man made him acquainted with it. He was a gambler and sometimes a petty thief, when gauged by our standards; but he lived by a different code, and if he took his neighbor's food it was because he was hungry and considered the



means of sustenance as common property. It was beyond him to understand how it was wrong for a redman when he needed it, to take a sack of flour from a white man, and right for the white man, when he needed it, to help himself to the redman's land by the hundreds of acres.

I believe that, to deal fairly both with the Indian and the reader, the writer, in delineating the faults of the former, should also explain their existence, where there is a justifiable explanation, by revealing the Indian's viewpoint.

My idea would be to take the middle path in handling the redman in juvenile literature. He should not be depicted as perfect, but neither should he be forever daubed with war paint, gripping a tomahawk in a hand shaking with eagerness to remove a coveted scalp.

Abandonment of warfare as the theme for Indian stories would not deprive the American boy of his right to

virile reading matter. Many writers are constantly on guard lest their work for boys become vitiated with feminism, and as a consequence their Indians must shed blood. It could hardly be charged against Longfellow, however, that his heroes had squaw hearts; and yet there is no mention of a racial war in the pages of that masterpiece.

By making American boys and girls acquainted with the Indian when he is at his worst, we cannot benefit them, we cannot uplift them morally or educationally. Therefore, let us select for their perusal the work that shows the redman smoking the Calumet with his brethren, frolicking with his children by the campfire, partaking in athletic games, painting his crude messages on skins and stones, cruising in his birch canoe down some great river for a voyage across an unknown sea, or standing on the shore of a placid lake, a child of the wilderness, watching the spread of the gorgeous sunset streamers and wondering whether the Great Spirit is smiling again.

## In the Letter Box

### Standard Catalog

A note from Mr H. W. Wilson, president of the H. W. Wilson Company, disclaims any intention that the new *Standard Catalog Bimonthly* is to be competitive with the A. L. A. *Booklist* and calls attention to the fact that the Wilson publication will record about 300 books a year, whereas the *Booklist* covers about 2000.

Mr Wilson states:

In our *Standard Catalog Series* we are trying to serve the small library and the really small library has, it seems to me, been quite overlooked in recent years. The small library, it seems to me, is one that does not purchase more than 50 to 200 titles a year. Such a library usually has an untrained librarian who would have some difficulty in selecting so small a number of books from a list so large as that represented by either the *Booklist* or the *Book Review Digest*.

### Exposed Books

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have noted the communication in May PUBLIC LIBRARIES with reference to the treatment of books exposed to contagious diseases.

It may interest you to know that, while I was librarian of the Public library at Valparaiso, Indiana, a very careful and exhaustive investigation of this subject was made—probably the first of its kind—and the results were reported to the National medical association and later printed in one of their yearbooks. The report was also published separately, and no doubt copies of same are still on file at the Valparaiso public library.

BERTHA JOEL.

The H. W. Wilson Co.,  
New York City.

**Ready to Help**

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I wish to call the attention of librarians and investigators to a union list on cards of Scandinavian periodicals now accessible in American libraries.

This list is due to the labors of Miss Anna Monrad, in charge of cataloging at the Yale University library, and thanks to her courtesy it has now been turned over to me to form a part of a union list of wider scope being formed for the American Scandinavian Foundation.

Miss Monrad's list notes periodicals no longer being issued, as well as those still in course of publication, and her cards generally record the extent of the sets. In one section investigated, references were found to some twenty libraries; this shows that the sources from which Miss Monrad has drawn are numerous and well distributed over the country.

I shall be glad to answer questions in regard to the whereabouts of Scandinavian periodicals whenever such questions can be answered from Miss Monrad's list or from the additional material which is being incorporated into it.

T. FRANKLIN CURRIER,  
Harvard University library,  
Cambridge, Mass.

**A Display Case**

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The Free public library, San Jose, Cal., has recently put into operation a combined bulletin board, book shelf, and book ends forming a display case which may have sufficient novelty to interest other librarians.

The total height of the case is thirty-five inches and the length forty inches, the portion of the bulletin board above the row of books serving for a display of posters, pictures, or legends made in our case with Wilson letters either in black or white. We have found this a convenient size for the display of material relating to special observances and especially for

a weekly display at the local Chamber of Commerce Forum meetings. Some of the subjects so far covered in the latter case and designed to draw the attention of the business men to the library are the following, all selected for their relation to the topic of the speaker in each case:

Evolution of the pen, Vacations, Fish and game, The spirit of service, Clean journalism, Personal efficiency and employment management, Biographies of business men, Books by George Wharton James, the speaker of the day, Foreign relations of China, South American trade.

**One Can't Always Tell**

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The inclosed letter which we had from an unknown source, but which was mailed in Chicago, is of interest.

The writer of the letter was evidently a transient in Davenport. We ask such to deposit one dollar which we return when the book we lend them is returned. The writer evidently could not comply with this rule and hence the sequel. The book returned was something on philosophy. I have forgotten the exact title.

Be so kind and forgive me for borrowing this book without your knowledge But I had so often want to read it and my eyes hungried for the contents I intent to stay in City but I left and so I am returning your book, and hope that you haven't missed it yet

I thank you Sincerity But I am embarsed fncially.

Many thanks Many.

Anyway, it renews our faith in the honesty of humanity, and I presume many librarians could testify as we do, that there has been an unusual number of books missing this year.

GRACE SHELLENBERGER,  
Public library, Davenport, Iowa.

**Individual Mention**

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Since in the May issue of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, you have broken the reservation which seemed to have been set, wisely—that of taking our A. L. A. work during the war as a whole and not as individuals—I cannot refrain

from mentioning the work of two other women, which always comes to mind when I think of the war work.

After hard exacting work in camp libraries here, both went overseas when the submarines were active—one about April, 1918, and the other later in the Fall—both went for the sum fixed for their expenses.

The first one knew what it was in Paris to hear the siren on the top of Tour de Jacqueo call for a retreat to the nether regions; knew what it was to dodge the missiles sent by the Big Bertha; knew well all the discomforts of Paris during the fighting, such as scarcity of essential foods, of fuel, of transportation, of labor. She knew how to go without sugar and often without the coffee also, of how to keep warm without fire, of how to handle the boxes of books herself, to open them, unpack, carry, arrange, select a collection, pack them up, nail up the boxes and get them up for the precious cameon when it chanced to come. Also to take in a refugee boy, to clothe him and fill his heart with joy by putting an A. L. A. insignia on his arm and making him an office boy at headquarters; to handle a bunch of chattering French stenographers and get something accomplished; to fill thousands of mail requests for books and to keep at all of it for more than a year and a half. All of us who were interested in getting books to "our boys" when they needed them most and under most difficult conditions, must recognize, gratefully, the unselfish, willing, faithful work of Mrs Burton E. Stevenson.

And the second great-hearted woman who finally gave her life as the price she paid for her effort to reach the men in the hospitals in France. For many weary months she went up and down to those barracks and tents of misery, arranging often with unwilling medical officers or attendants for book service, breaking in those who were to take care of the little hospital libraries. And always with time to give something to the men, as

when at his request she held tight the hand of a dying boy, while he went thru the agony of having his wound dressed and talked to him of "God's country" and home to help him forget, all the while she knew that he would never see them again.

She also knew the deprivations felt in France at that time, the discomforts of that winter of 1918-19, and the weariness of journeying here and there. But no one else ever knew of her own suffering and anxiety. Nor her refusal to take time for care for her own ailment while the great task of organizing the hospital libraries in France was incomplete—until it was too late. She was as brave, as interested in each camp library when she had a chance to visit some of the work going on, other than her own; as eager to catch a glimpse of the beautiful and interesting France of the late spring; and thru it all never forgetting to do her boys in the hospitals, a good turn when she could. And she cheered one hard-pressed camp library worker with a gift of money for the purchase of flowers with pitchers and jars to hold them—the only "homey" decoration that special library could have.

Surely, if one recognizes the work of individuals in the A. L. A., one of the first mentioned should be Mary Frances Isom.

These two I saw at work and tho late perhaps in speaking, if we are to individualize by praise, I must testify to their due.

ANNA A. MACDONALD.

Harrisburg, Pa.

May 8, 1922.

### The Bookbinding Exhibits

After the usually full itinerary for the fall and winter seasons, the two A. L. A. Bookbinding exhibits are available for the summer schools and library institutes. Reservations may be made also for the state meetings in the fall. Applications should be addressed to Mary E. Wheelock, Public library, Des Moines, Iowa, giving dates or approximate dates preferred.

## Uniform Telephone Number for Libraries

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Anyone who has attempted to find the library number in a telephone directory in a strange city will join me, I am sure, in the wish for some plan by which this information can be secured with less expenditure of time and patience. After looking under "Library," "City Library," "Carnegie Library" (a misnomer), "Public Library," or "Free Public Library," "(name of city) Library" without result, a final recourse is generally taken to "Information" before communication can be established with the institution in question.

If a uniform number, to be used everywhere, such as is used by the Western Union Telegraph Company the country over, could be agreed upon by libraries and asked for locally by them, it would not only obviate the annoyance suggested above, but be a gain in publicity as well.

Inasmuch as public libraries under the Dewey decimal classification are classed as 027 that number would hardly be desirable. As a part of the city government, the number 351,852 would be too long. Twenty-seven (27) might be used or 654, the number for telegraph or telephone communications. Possibly someone else will have a better suggestion.

In large cities, the exchange number could be prefixed and branches given the same number when on different exchanges.

No official action need be taken but if a number can be agreed upon each librarian may make the request of her local telephone company for its use for her own library. Will librarians having other suggestions please send them to PUBLIC LIBRARIES?

If a *uniform entry* could also be agreed upon, it would tend to help the general public until they discover the fact that the libraries have a number all their own. "Library" is too indefinite and there may be more than

one in a place. "———public library" is more distinctive but lacks uniformity and telephone companies like as few words as possible, which might be an objection to "Free public library," "City library" or "Public library" would seem equally as desirable. Let us have a vote on this. Why not include the telephone number on library cards displayed in stations, hotels and other public places, thus "Telephone (Standard No.) ———?"

JULIA A. ROBINSON.

Des Moines, Iowa.

## Exchange of Ideas

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have read with interest your many appeals for international good feeling between librarians. I have been reading lately that American librarians seeking positions in England have found them. I think if we exchange workers for a time at least, it will be for the betterment of all concerned.

I want to offer the following:

A note from a librarian of good standing and much experience in England, expresses the wish to join the library craft in the United States or Canada, in a position that would provide sufficient emolument for the support of himself and a small family. Information in detail will be furnished to any institution interested. Address E. L. M., 4756 Kenwood Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

## One of the Joys of the Day's Work

In a letter just received from Mr W. E. Henry, librarian of the University of Washington and director of the Library school of that university, the following bit of appraisal is given:

My students have just been reading as a part of their class work the article by Miss Sawyer in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for May. It is so well worth while and so admirably written, and so fundamental in its conception of library work, that they are anxious to have additional copies to those we already have.

Monthly—Except August  
and September.

## Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

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By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

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When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Contributions for current numbers of **PUBLIC LIBRARIES** should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

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### It Pays

**A** COMMUNICATION from Elizabeth H. Harris, on another page, seems to definitely answer, in the affirmative, the question, "Does a reading hour pay?" used as the title. The idea and its results, as set out by Miss Harris, are so good, so desirable as well as so possible in any library, that one feels a strong impulse to urge its adoption in every library. Of course, the idea is not entirely new but its value in all its relations has probably not occurred to many recently and so a renewal of its claim may be presented with perfect propriety to all libraries.

In a series of recent library visits, one had opportunity to observe with

regret the effect on the several library staffs, of the absence of a keen interest in the contents of the library in relation to themselves. One saw, also, with great pleasure, the keen, alert mindfulness of life, in all its ramifications, on the part of those who dipped their cups into the well-springs around them and for their own refreshment and possible needs.

It is impossible for any one to live intellectually, professionally, or even intelligently, without taking in constantly fresh sustenance from the several sources that furnish one joy in his labor.

Thoughts shut up want air  
And spoil like bales unopened to the sun.

### A New Librarian at Peoria, Ill.

In the appointment of Dr Edwin Wiley as librarian of the Public library of Peoria, libraries circles of Illinois have reason for congratulation from the prospect of having a cultured, educated and active new member. Dr Wiley is a Southern man by birth and upbringing, but has spent a good many years in educational circles of the East.

He will find the librarians of Illinois ready to welcome him as librarian of the second city in the state and to contribute in every way to the solution of the problems he may find in his new field, and also, to avail themselves of the contribution of new ideas, wide experience and professional spirit which his coming will undoubtedly bring.



## Soldiers and Library Service

**A**N account is given on another page of the interest of Paris Post, No. 1, American Legion, in the American library in Paris; also of the appeal of the post for contributions of books and material for the American library in Paris.

This evidence of interest in the Paris library on the part of the American Legion is to be commended and the hope emphasized that the request which the Paris post has sent out to each of its 700 members in Paris for books for the American library will bring to the latter an abundant supply of the much needed material. Likewise, the appeal of Dr Johnston, calling attention to the fact that the Alan Seegar fund, the first contribution made toward the endowment of the library, and given by the father of Alan Seegar as a memorial to his gallant soldier son, should provide other memorial funds of like character.

After the closing out of the Overseas library service on a large scale, PUBLIC LIBRARIES urged, very strongly, that concentrated attention be given in local library circles, toward securing the permanent interest and support of returned soldiers as they formed themselves into American Legion posts thruout the country, with a view to continuing their interest and belief in the power of the public library to help them, believing that libraries would find the strongest civic and political support in the returned soldiers that the various communities could afford.

The attempt to divert and extend this interest to plans and purposes devised by those who saw in the situation

an opportunity for an enlarged program of work which they felt they could not afford to pass by, distracted attention in local circles thruout the country, and only in comparatively few instances has the ex-soldier returned to the library of the several communities, anything like the interest and service which he owes to it for the contribution of the libraries of the country, to the general cause of the service of books which they as citizens, taking up again their duties and responsibilities in the community, ought to give.

This situation is most regrettable, but altho the first fervor of the "return home" feeling may have passed, it is not too late yet, particularly in communities where directors and trustees are to be appointed, for librarians themselves, if no one else takes it up, to secure for the libraries, efficient administrative qualities and appreciation of book service and the value of the active public library, which in thousands and thousands of men who served in the army, were developed by their army experience.

By all means, let the American library in Paris express thru the gifts of those who can give, a full and even magnificent debt of gratitude to the fair young lives that were laid down in France, but let the libraries at home, which are educational institutions in the broadest definition of the word, education, secure, as early as possible, the personal, friendly and effective interest and support of the returned soldier as he is found thruout the whole country.

## Retrenchment or Extravagance?

UNDER the title, Office improvement work as promoted by the B. F. Goodrich Company, in *Proceedings of the National Association of Office Managers* (1921 conference, Buffalo, N. Y. p. 37-8), Frank P. Hamon states:

"Combined library and filing: Our library, with about 2600 volumes and a circulating list of 507 magazines, we have combined with our general filing department which is now taking care of all library work and handling 75,000 pieces of mail matter per month with a force of eight people.

Economies were also effected by eliminating useless circulation of some magazines and a straight reduction of \$360 per month in library expense was made."

The B. F. Goodrich Company library has been cited many times as a leader and yet its manager goes into print as above.

This would seem to indicate that the library idea is not much more firmly established in business circles than outside them, tho one would hardly think so on reading the forward-looking addresses of the members of the S. L. A.

But what is true in this instance is true also beyond question in library service anywhere. The utterances of university professors, academic leaders, high school principals, as one class, and utter lack of opinion concerning the place of a library in a community by the majority of "just people," would indicate the truth of Mr Dana's oft repeated assertion that library service has not yet made its way in the minds of the public as a necessary part of the equipment of any community.

But when one listens to the ideals, the plans and purposes; when one sees the courage, the persistence, the faithfulness and effectiveness of those engaged in library work, one feels that the cause is not hopeless. Recalling the words of Dr. Primrose, "there is nothing in the world so precious as honest, spiritual human endeavor," one still believes in the wisdom and value of all effort to bring the accumulated wisdom and experience of yesterday into the lives of those who are working today for the larger development of the world tomorrow.

In the May number of *The Journal* of the N. E. A. is given an editorial from *The Times-Republican* of Marshalltown, Iowa, which while it refers to public school teachers is just as applicable in any educational effort, whether carried on by a private concern or a public institution. Condensed the editorial referred to states:

## STORM LAKE'S RETRENCHMENT

Storm Lake is retrenching. It has cut the wages of its teachers and discontinued the kindergarten. It is a poor system of retrenchment. Somewhat like refusing to paint the barn or keep a shed for the machinery or pay a lawyer to draw a will or an extra price for tested seed corn. Cutting down teachers' wages and abolishing kindergartens is not retrenchment. On the contrary, it is extravagance. . . .

Good teachers gravitate toward good pay. Cheap communities must take cheap teachers. That is not economy or retrenchment. It is simply a foolish extravagance. . . .

The average man's school tax is less than his cigar bill. The average man's school tax is less than his dues at the country club. It costs him—this average man—more to belong to the Rotary club than his taxes amount to. Storm Lake is not retrenching. Storm Lake is wasting an opportunity.

## Nominations for A. L. A. Offices

THE general experience of most organizations goes to prove that a cause of disquietude is found invariably in the necessity which seems to urge, at different times, revision of the constitution. No one is ever satisfied with the result of a revision. No revision ever works without being again revised, and altogether, one might be justified in saying that times of revising the constitution of an organization form unsettled periods.

Some little time ago, for what seemed very good and sufficient reason for those who proposed it, the constitution of the A. L. A. underwent what started out to be, at first, a very complete revision. Inasmuch as an immediate revision of the constitution of the A. L. A. is prohibited, a revision must cover a two year period (and much can happen in two years), interest in the last attempted revision lagged before the task was entirely completed, as was apparent at the Swampscott meeting.

One of the first inconveniences, if not delinquencies, in the recent revision of the constitution, comes up in the matter of nominations and elections for office. The revised constitution provides that the Nominating committee name three candidates for each office to be voted on by the electorate. This plan is open to criticism. It has been tried before in the association and many of the older members may recall the disinclination of most persons to enter into a contest for office under any circumstances, but particularly after having failed once of an election. There is always a feeling too, perfectly proper, that one does not wish to "run" for office. This feeling

has caused a number who were nominated this year, to withdraw their name, the use of which had not been authorized, the Nominating committee choosing in their wisdom to propose the same for election. Several of the offices, therefore, that are to be voted on at the Detroit meeting do not have the specified quota of three candidates as called for in the constitution.

The theory of the geographical location of those called on to serve the interests of the A. L. A. is good but in practice it sometimes makes the result so far as a working team is concerned a little faulty from the very fact of geographical separation.

A rather unusual practice which prevails, also, is the nomination and election to positions in A. L. A. service of persons who are not members of the association and do not attend its meetings. In view of the membership material available for service, this practice is open to question also.

A good suggestion is found in the last paragraph of the statement by Committee on the constitution and by-laws in the *Bulletin* of the A. L. A. for May, 1922, page 66:

All chairmen of standing committees of the Association shall be *ex-officio* members of the Council, on the ground that since the Council is the policy-making body of the Association, committee chairmen should have the benefit of close association with the Council and a voice in its executive sessions.

Since the theory of the revisors of the constitution does not work in practice, it would be well for the "condition that confronts us" to be seriously considered by the association and another revision in relation to the needs of the situation undertaken as soon as possible.

## A Recess in Giving

THERE has been considerable conjecture in the minds of those interested in the benefactions of the Carnegie Foundation as to the attitude of the present administrator of that fund toward requests for contributions for library buildings. A correspondent sends word of definite information received in a letter from Mr James Bertram, secretary of the Carnegie Foundation, in answer to an inquiry as to what the community might expect from the Carnegie Foundation for a library building. Mr Bertram's reply stated:

This corporation has not for some time and is not now making appropriations for the erection of library buildings and I am quite unable to foretell any date for the resumption of such activities.

This seems definite enough and should not be misunderstood by any one. While it may cause disappointment in some localities, it ought not to prove a disaster anywhere.

Where a community furnishes funds for a library building, whether thru the expression of its effective belief in such thru its constituted municipal authorities, or whether the community itself, thru voluntary contribution, provides a home for carrying on library service, there is bound to be a greater interest

in the institution and consequently greater use, thus producing more intelligence in the community than where the gift for a building is received in response to the special activities of a small group and without the consensus of interest that the former method of obtaining the building will most surely engender.

As has been pointed out many times, a library building by no means assures good library service. It is altogether possible, and sometimes actually occurs, that an organized library in cramped quarters in a rented building, in the hands of a real librarian, will give better service than a marble hall, beautifully decorated which has been a gift, unappreciated, if not unsolicited.

It is to be hoped that the result of Mr Bertram's decision will be a wider understanding of the real function and power of the public library, properly supported in many a place. Indeed, it is altogether probable, the stimulation that comes from a situation cleared of uncertainty, will prove in the end an incentive to greater activity and greater interest in the use of printed material.

## Tariff and Copyright

As was set forth in the May number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the A. L. A. Bookbuying committee's contentions for the free entry of books before the Senate Committee on Finance were considered by that body and the bill was reported out of committee, practically as told in the last month's issue.

A bill to amend the copyright law to permit the United States to enter the International Copyright Union has been introduced by Mr Tincher of Kansas.

Librarians are interested in the bill only so far as the provision is made which seeks for the prohibition of the importation of any book except with the

consent of the proprietor of the American copyright. This provision does not apply to any one purchasing a book "for use and not for sale," provided the publisher of the American edition of such book has, within 10 days after written demand, declined or neglected to agree to supply the copy demanded.

While the consensus of opinion of all book people would express the wish that the United States enter the International Copyright Union, it seems desirable that it should do so, without in any way conferring special privileges on any engaged in the production of books or compelling users of books to pay unnecessary tribute to such producers.

The bill is known as H. R. 11476.

### Why Not Speak Out?

A western librarian of much ability in a professional way but rather timid about registering opinion, writes:

I was particularly interested in what you said in the March PUBLIC LIBRARIES regarding the attitude of the public school authorities tending to take over the administration of public libraries. I have been noticing it in our state, but find nobody especially interested, so I was glad to see that you, too, were seeing what I had sensed as a real problem, to put it mildly.

### The President's Call

Miss Charl Ormond Williams of Tennessee, president of the National Education Association gives the following call to the members of the N. E. A. in the May number of *The Journal* of the N. E. A., in relation to the meeting in Boston, July 3-8:

#### The call to Boston

Inspiration is the soul of great teaching. It lifts both teacher and pupil to lofty heights of achievement and releases stores of energy that without it had remained hidden. Inspiration is the secret of power, the magic of leadership, and the hope of democracy.

It is to get inspiration that teachers meet and share their best experiences. The coming meeting at Boston will bring together perhaps 20,000 of the Nation's strongest teachers in a setting

of high literary and historic significance. That every teacher who can will be there and that those who cannot will send representatives is my earnest wish.

President Root of the A. L. A. also says:

... It has been our endeavor to confine the topics to those problems which particularly present themselves for discussion at the present time. The program has been planned to have representatives of the varied clientele of the A. L. A. and much time has been provided for general discussion.

Such a program depends for its success upon the hearty coöperation of the members of the Association. Three things we particularly ask of every member. First, attendance at the convention. Second, prompt attendance at the hour assigned for the beginning of each session. Third, perfect freedom to discuss, suggest or criticise. If the members meet these conditions, I am sure we shall have an interesting and very profitable conference.

### Death's Toll

News has been received of the death of John Vance Cheney on May 1 in San Diego, Cal., where he had lived for a number of years, at the age of 74.

Mr Cheney was born in New York. He studied and practiced law for some time in that state, but later became librarian of the Public Library of San Francisco, 1887-1894. At the death of Dr Poole in 1894, he became librarian of the Newberry library in Chicago, where he remained until 1908. He then resigned from this position and removed to California where he devoted his entire time to writing. While in Chicago, Mr Cheney wrote a considerable amount of poetry and acted as literary critic for the *Inter-Ocean* and the *Chicago Herald*. He had a distinct gift for lyric poetry, in which line he attained considerable fame.

He is survived by a daughter of his first marriage and his widow, Sara Barker Chamberlain, whom he married in Chicago in 1903.



Mrs Helen J. McCaine who was actively connected with the Public library of St. Paul for 40 years, died March 30, 1922 at her home in that city.

Mrs McCaine was a New England woman by birth and upbringing, but went to Minnesota in 1871. She became assistant in the library at St. Paul in 1874, and in 1877, was appointed librarian, serving continuously until 1914 when she resigned.

Mrs McCaine was the finest type of well-bred, highly educated, charming New England woman. Her spirit of service was one of her strongest characteristics and this spirit pervaded the entire staff, and as one of the staff members said, "She set the high ideals which animate the library at the present day. Her interest in the library was as keen and constant after her resignation as before. Her advice and counsel were greatly prized by her successor, who always referred to her as 'my gentle predecessor.'"

The library board, clubs, and press of the city, at news of her death, were unanimous in their expressions of high appreciation of Mrs McCaine as a woman, as a friend and as one of the valuable educational forces of the city.

The report of Dr A. E. Hardy, secretary-treasurer of the Ontario library association, for the year 1921-1922 is an important document and should be preserved as a very valuable contribution to the history of library development in any collection relating to this subject.

Dr Hardy gives not only a succinct and enlightening report of the library development and activities in the province of Ontario, Canada, which he covers most completely, but reviews library development thruout the world. The report is interspersed thruout with explanatory comments on what has been done and with wise suggestions as to future development in many lines of library service. Great Britain, Africa, Baroda and China are included in the survey. The Carnegie Trust, library schools, book weeks, library organizations and many other forms of activity are most interestingly treated.

### Does a Reading Hour Pay?

Following a similar tendency in business life, civic institutions may be expected to allow those employed to distribute service, opportunity to gain a small part of their ability on paid time.

Pursuing this general trend, for the past year, Public library, Pomona, Cal., has been trying out the reading hour plan, allowing each member of the staff one hour a week for professional and cultural reading, the time to be divided as the individual chooses, as the mental needs of the staff differ widely.

The town is a thriving one of 16,000 population, with only a small percentage of foreigners. Its much-used library of 46,000 volumes is made up of the usual public library proportion of valuable and trivial books. Its staff of nine persons vary widely in age, professional training and natural ability. With these conditions, we have come to the conclusion that the weekly reading hour pays. A questionnaire sent out to the staff brought out the following points:

About half of the time was spent on cultural reading for the pleasure and relaxation it gave, but the knowledge gained often proved of use at unexpected times.

About a quarter of the time was spent on reading such professional aids as PUBLIC LIBRARIES, *Bookman*, *Publishers' Weekly* and the current numbers of the more serious weekly and monthly periodicals, as *Literary Digest*, *Atlantic*, *Independent*, etc. The time spent on professional reading showed the largest and quickest returns for the time invested. It was concluded that more of the time could have been profitably spent on the current numbers of the serious periodicals.

The remaining quarter of the time was spent in looking over new books in the cataloging room, which helped in recommending new titles to patrons.

All feel that the knowledge gained in the one short hour a week has

helped in answering the public's questions more intelligently, and that the quiet hour has lessened fatigue and added to the pleasure of the work by increasing professional pride in it.

ELIZABETH H. HARRIS.

### **A Movement in the Interest of More Serviceable Books**

We have been for many years all too familiar with the complaint as to books which loosen from the covers after slight use, and with the difficulties and expense attending their repair. In recent years we have the even more irritating examples of some of the generally accepted or new popular titles, both in adult and children's books, which have been rather attractively bound in what proves, after one or two issues, to be a paper covering in close imitation of cloth where cloth should have been used.

As a result of recent protest from several widely separated sources, attention has been directed with insistent emphasis to the increasingly poor paper and bindings of the large proportion of books produced by the publishers in the last few years, the imitation cloth covers (of paper) being one of the grievances cited. One publisher who was appealed to very courteously promised to look into the matter of paper and binding of the offending book and report later as to a possible remedy. Another offers to bind in cloth, for the protesting librarian, a book which has plain board covers for 75 cents in addition to the regular price. A third gives as a defense for this attempted economy the alternative of using paper covers or of increasing the selling price of the book, and records the decision of the firm in favor of paper covers.

While we are not in possession of full information as to costs of publishing, we may be reasonably sure that cover cloth such as is commonly used by publishers, cost during the peak of prices about two years ago not more than 30 cents per yard in quantity, the normal price being from 14 cents to 20

cents. As one yard of this cloth will cover at least ten books of ordinary size, the maximum cost per book for cover cloth could hardly be more than 3 cents. While the cost of the paper covering would be somewhat less, there would hardly be more than 2 cents saving in the use of the paper. It would be interesting to know how much it would be necessary to increase the selling price per book to cover this difference of perhaps two cents in favor of the flimsy binding cloth most often used on recent fiction and children's books.

The facts, which apply about equally to industries in general, are probably something like this: The cost of actual materials used in making books is about one-eighth, or even less, of the whole cost of production. The other seven-eighths, representing royalties, cost of editing, illustrating, etc., and the mechanical labor involved from press work to binding, constitutes the real basis for fixing the selling price of the books. Why publishers are uniformly silent on this side of the question of expense of production is not quite clear.

In one large library it was found that the cost of binding for 1921 showed a noticeable increase over that of previous years, due apparently to the poor paper and bindings of the current new books, as there were not other sufficient reasons for the increased binding cost.

A protest of rather grave character comes from a university library which has recently acquired a well known reference work, published by a supposedly reputable firm, in a binding which was advertised as "Persian morocco." On examination this binding is found to be an imitation leather, which, if of good quality and sold as imitation leather, would not be so objectionable. But the deliberate misrepresentation places the firm and the transaction in a very doubtful position. In these days when "truth in advertising" is being emphasized in all classes

of business, this is a distinct disappointment.

A valuable English reference annual has been for years placed (one cannot say "bound" with accuracy) in a cover of thinnest boards and cheapest cloth, and often begins breaking away at the joints before it reaches the purchaser, while its warping covers quite belie the real value of the work.

A hopeful instance of the readiness of some publishers to comply with reasonable requests from librarians, is found in the response of the publishers of the *Outlook* to a protest some months ago against the narrow margins of that magazine which do not admit of satisfactory binding. They have now promised a new press, to be especially built within a few months, providing for adequate margins, a fact which will be learned with approval by all librarians.

The time seems to have come when something more than occasional sporadic complaints without definite concerted action, is due from libraries. The publishers are frank in recognizing the importance of the library trade, which, tho it may be a comparatively small item in actual direct library sales, is a very effective means of introducing and popularizing the better books, and thus of indirectly increasing the sales to an incalculable extent thru the regular book agencies, and we are confident that the publishers will give due consideration our appeal for more serviceable books.

It is assumed that the librarians who have voiced the complaints referred to are only a very few of those who find apparent injustices other than the high cost, in their book purchases. Let us have other specific statements of such cases, with author, title, publisher and date of books in regard to which there are serious faults, with careful and impartial description of the defects as noted. The A. L. A. Book-buying and Bookbinding committees are prepared to coöperate in making a direct appeal to the publishers for im-

provement in the make-up of their books, this specific information for which we are asking to form the basis of this appeal.

A copy of this article has been sent to Frederic G. Melcher, secretary of the National Association of Book Publishers, New York, with fuller detail regarding some of our grievances, and with an inquiry as to means on the part of the publishers of alleviating the general situation as rapidly as possible, in keeping with the decline in costs in practically every line. Now, we shall see—what we shall see!

MARY E. WHEELLOCK, Chairman,  
A. L. A. Committee on Book-binding.

#### Openings in Public Health Service and Naval Establishment

It is expected that a new Civil Service register will be established in May for vacancies in the Naval Establishment and Public Health Service. Written examination will probably be waived, applicants being required to write a short thesis and fill out an application blank. Positions to be filled are those of librarians in the Public Health Service, Naval hospitals and Naval and Marine stations.

Requirements for both services are practically identical and one list will be established to fill vacancies in either service.

Altho the undersigned cannot speak with any official sanction, yet we personally believe that library service as established in the Public Health Service and the Navy will prove permanent. The positions offer opportunity for administrative work, requiring handling of personnel, tact and judgment as well as knowledge of library routine.

The undersigned will be glad to answer any questions as to details. Copies of the Civil Service announcement of examination will be forwarded upon request. Copies may also be obtained when printed from the offices of

the Civil Service commission in the various cities.

CAROLINE WEBSTER, library specialist, Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.

C. H. BROWN, library specialist, Bureau of Navigation, Sixth Division, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

On April 29, President Harding signed an Executive order, effective May 1, transferring to the Director of the U. S. Veterans' bureau the management and control of all the hospitals previously operated by the Public health service for veterans of the World war.

This transfer contemplates not only the transfer of the hospitals themselves, but the library service as now operated under the supervision of Miss Caroline Webster of the A. L. A.

Mr H. S. Cumming, surgeon general, in writing to the A. L. A. in regard to the transfer, takes occasion to speak words of high praise and keen appreciation of the Public Health service, for the excellent coöperation of the A. L. A. in carrying on very satisfactory work in the hospitals. He takes occasion to say, also, that Miss Webster has shown a fine spirit of coöperation and that without her service, it would not have been possible for the organization to have functioned with such satisfaction.

The Public Health service will continue to operate for the care of veterans of the World War as well as other beneficiaries of the government, and the department will be most happy to have the library service continued by the A. L. A. in this very important work.

### An Active Library Dramatic Club

The Library Players of the Cleveland public library have "called it a day" and are resting from their labors. The recreational season of 1921-1922 is closed except for a "fry-your-own" picnic to be given some one of those rare evenings which June is scheduled to produce.

The Players take a modest pride in

their season's record. They have given eight public performances, at which they have presented nine one-act plays, and have further contributed to the gaiety of the library community with a Christmas party and a Washington's birthday party, both of which were for the staff only. The final undertaking of the year was a card-party and play, given for library work in France by the Players under the direction of Miss Effie L. Power, director of children's work and Miss Dorothy E. Smith, president of the Players. About 200 people attended the party, enjoying the hilarious, 47-Workshop play, Cooks and Cardinals and lingering for cards, refreshments and a social hour. The net proceeds of this business and pleasure party, \$187, or 2045 francs, has been dispatched to Miss Jessie Carson and her helpers for their children's libraries and reading rooms in devastated France.

The Library Players were organized in the fall of 1920, with Mr Gordon W. Thayer as president. During the year 1920-1921, the Players gave two groups of one-act plays, one of which, Susan Glaspell's Suppressed desires, was repeated at the O. L. A. meeting at Yellow Springs in October, 1921.

In the fall of 1921, the Players re-organized for more extensive undertakings with the following officers: Miss Dorothy Elizabeth Smith, president; Miss Orpha L. Post, secretary; Mrs Mura L. Craine, treasurer; Miss Helene Manche, business manager; Miss Helen Plasman, property manager, and an Executive board of 11 members. Miss Eastman has been particularly interested in the Players this year, as she feels that all such activities make for staff unity.

Only sufficient admission was charged at public performances to cover expenses of production, except in the case of the benefit party and play. After paying all expenses, the Library Players close the season with \$142 in the treasury, largely from dues, and the resolve to put thru a more ambitious program next season, beginning in October with a three-act comedy and

a repetition of the "Cooks and Cardinals" for a curtain-raiser. The club hereby enters itself as competing for the title of *Library Playboys of the Middle-Western World!*

### An Important Change in the Distribution of Documents

The Superintendent of Documents has just sent out a circular letter to depository libraries announcing that with the July invoice, if possible, the provisions of Public Act 171 of the 67th Congress passed March 20, 1922, will go into effect. The Act provides that depository libraries shall not receive any publications not requested by them. "This selective plan, which has been advocated for many years by the Joint committee on printing, the present public printer (Mr George H. Carter,) the superintendent of documents (Mr Alton P. Tisdell), and the American Library Association, will relieve the depository libraries of their burden under existing laws," and allow them to select what they can use. A descriptive list is being prepared which will be sent to the depositories for checking and it is desired to have these returned in time to allow for distribution of the July invoice on this plan.

Libraries all over the country will welcome this change, which has been prayed for for many years. It was requested also, in one of the resolutions passed by the Documents round-table at the Swampscott meeting, the result of the replies to the questionnaire on the "Popular use of documents in libraries."

"The new law makes the selective plan for depository libraries mandatory rather than a privilege" and if it is carried out in the spirit of the superintendent of documents, it will not curtail the opportunity to receive government publications, but no doubt allow those libraries which have desired even more publications, such as "Hearings" and other special reports, the opportunity to obtain them thru the depository channel.

This is decidedly an advance step and a most important one.\*

J. M. WOODFORD.

### More Than That!

The attention of the Public library commission of Indiana has just been called to a recent book published by Macmillan and written by Mr Llewellyn MacGarr of Lincoln, Illinois, entitled "The rural community." Among the illustrations used are three drawn from report of the Public library commission of Indiana showing the service which is rendered by public libraries in Indiana. Unfortunately, the report used was that of 1912, issued some 10 years ago. In comparing the figures used with those of today a very remarkable advance is shown. In the illustration of 10 years ago, 70 per cent of the urban population of the state was shown to be reached by public libraries. Today the percentage is 98.8. There are only four towns in the state of more than 2,500 which do not have a public library. The population of these four towns, Bicknell, Jasonville, West Terre Haute and Jasper, amounts to 18,670, or 1.2 per cent of the urban population of 1,482,855 shown by the government census of 1920.

The rural library development is just as marked. Ten years ago the illustration showed 8.3 per cent of the rural population served by public libraries. Today, 37 per cent, or 538,824 people are so reached out of 1,447,535. In 1912, there were 11 counties in Indiana with no public libraries within their boundaries. There are only two such counties now, Crawford and Pike.

The total population of the state is 2,930,390. The total number served by libraries is 2,009,527 or 68 per cent.

WM. J. HAMILTON.

Indianapolis, Ind.

April 22, 1922.

\*This plan was advocated two generations ago without avail. What waste has resulted from the delay!—Editor.



### Red Tape First Quality

Imported publications must hereafter have country of origin indicated on cover or title page in legible English, indelible and permanent.

So runs the latest Customs rule, just promulgated as a Treasury Decision. Somebody has discovered that the law has been systematically violated for these thirty years. The new instructions to port officials intend to stop this "irregularity" right off.

The law provides:

That all articles of foreign manufacture, or production, which are capable of being marked, stamped, branded, or labeled, without injury, shall be marked, stamped, branded, or labeled in legible English words, in a conspicuous place that shall not be covered or obscured by any subsequent attachment or arrangement, so as to indicate the country of origin. Said marking, stamping, branding, or labeling shall be as nearly indelible and permanent as the nature of the article will permit. (Statutes at Large, vol. 38, pt. 1, p. 194.)

That applies to books and, it is argued, the way to apply is to apply. Ordinary folks had been thinking the title page just such a birth certificate. Not so the new official mind. The title page does not say "England," it says "London." It says "Leipzig," instead of "Germany." The honest inspector is not to be trifled with. But what he is to do with his information, after he has it, the decree saith not. No matter where the book comes from, he must pass it free of duty if written in a foreign language, while he will presumably recognize an English book, whether or not he sees "England" on it.

But, perchance, it is the reader whom a paternal Government would influence. To a prospective buyer of a foreign romance a word of warning shall be emblazoned "France!" And the new tariff makers in the Senate provide an extra ten per cent duty in case of infraction.

The present committee has made the mistake of remonstrating—and that, too, after declining to let the Copyright Twins do their work. If,

therefore, its members are not seen in Detroit, it may be concluded they are in jail. Maybe a few librarians with impatient pens will write something to the Division of Customs, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. Some Divisor might see the joke.

M. LLEWELLYN RANEY, Chairman.

ASA DON DICKINSON.

C. TEFFT HEWITT.

HILLER C. WELLMAN.

PURD B. WRIGHT.

A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying.

### A Call for Books

A memorandum from the librarian of the American library in Paris incloses a copy of a resolution adopted by Paris Post, No. 1, American Legion, at a meeting in March. The resolution endorses the work of the American Library Association as worthy of commendation and support by all ex-service men, their families and friends, and puts on record an expression of appreciation of the work of the library and its usefulness to the causes espoused by the American Legion. Each member of the post is pledged to secure from his friends books which, with others from himself, will be added to the American library in Paris.

It was further resolved that the Commander of the post be requested to bring to the attention of the National commander of the American Legion, thru the Commander of the Department of continental Europe, the heartiest appreciation of the splendid work which the library has done and is doing for Americans abroad, and seek their coöperation in the proposed plan.

... I said that I wanted to talk about the arrangement of the books on the shelves. I asked if anyone could tell me what the word "fiction" means. One little girl was most eager to reply. After carefully adjusting her skirts and hair ribbons she said in the most assured tones. "Fiction is how you fix them!" — *Milford School, Cleveland, Ohio.*

### News from A. L. A. Headquarters

A. L. A. headquarters has inaugurated a plan of preparing reading courses for those who would like to undertake definite courses of reading but who are not able to decide how to go about it. The A. L. A. circular states:

The individual who goes to the library for advice on a course of reading frequently fails to get the advice and help he wants, because the assistant is not an expert on the subject in which he is interested, or because she cannot give sufficient time to any one inquirer to do the subject justice.

To enable even the smallest library and the least experienced assistant to give the best advice, we have begun the publication of a series of reading courses.

Two courses have already been issued, the A. L. A. reading course on accounting, by a professor of accounting in a large university, and the A. L. A. reading course on journalism. The first is a pamphlet of eight pages and recommends eight books as essential. The second, by the director of a school of journalism, contains four pages and recommends 10 books.

Similar courses on other subjects will follow.

The American Library Association was represented in the following instances in April and May:

Alice S. Tyler represented the A. L. A. at the inauguration of the new president of the University of Southern California, April 27; President Azariah S. Root and Miss May Massee represented the A. L. A. at the Atlantic City meetings, April 28-29, and Miss Massee represented the A. L. A. at the American Booksellers Association meeting in Washington, May 8-11.

The Canadian Passenger Association has joined the other roads in giving fare and a half on all lines east of Fort William for the A. L. A. convention in Detroit, good going June 22-28 and with return limit not later than midnight of July 11. These and all other tickets having reduced rates must be bought with an identification certificate and be validated at Detroit in order to make the return trip.

The 1922 reports of the officers and various committees will cover 77 pages

in all. These will be reprinted this year in the proceedings.

Interesting points from the secretary's report are as follows:

The membership is now 5735, a gain of 12 per cent for the year.

The *United States Census Bulletin* for 1920 records 15,297 librarians in the United States.

The distribution of the 1921 *Handbook* was as follows: North Atlantic, 2026; South Atlantic, 348; North Central division, 1975; South Central division, 255; Western division, 560, and all others, 143.

The records show 17 states affiliating with the A. L. A.

Publicity has been stressed in recruiting for librarianship and county libraries.

The *Booklist* has 5000 paid subscriptions.

The publicity funds are much increased because of the increased sales of publications, but the gain does not represent a profit on account of publication costs.

### Chicago party

Arrangements have been made for a daylight special train, via the Michigan Central R. R., leaving from the Central station, Michigan Boul. and Roosevelt Road (12th Street) at 9:00 o'clock (10:00 o'clock daylight saving time), Monday morning, June 26; due to arrive in Detroit at 4:25 (5:25) p. m., which will allow ample time for dinner and the opening general session, scheduled for 8:00 p. m.

The special train equipment will consist of club car, standard Pullman cars, observation car, dining car, and steel day coaches, assuring comfort and convenience for the seven-hour journey to Detroit. Charge for seat in Pullman cars will be \$1.50.

Table d'hôte luncheon will be served costing \$1.25, and as certain guarantees are required for this service, you are requested to remit the same with your application for space on special train.

Register with John F. Phelan, Chicago Public Library, before June 15, sending him fee of \$1.25 to cover dining car service, plus \$1.50, if you desire seat in Pullman.

## \*Tentative Schedule of Meetings

Morning sessions at 9:30, afternoon sessions at 2:30, evening sessions at 8:00, with such exceptions as are specifically noted below.

(Detroit City Time.)

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
<b>MONDAY</b> June 26	9:30 Executive Board	2:30 Council.	8:00 First General Session. 10:00 Reception
<b>TUESDAY</b> June 27	9:30 Second General Session.	2:30 Am. Assn. Law Lib. Catalog Sec. Children's Lib. Sec. Trustees' Sec. Sch. Lib. Sec. High Schools Lib. Special Lib. Assn. Pub. Doc. Rd. Table. Work with Foreign Born Rd. Table.	8:00 Profess. Training Sec. Agric. Lib. Sec. League of Lib. Com. Special Lib. Assn.— Group meeting. Small Libs. Rd. Table. Am. Assn. Law Lib.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> June 28	9:30 Third General Session.	2:30 Children's Lib. Sec. Natl. Assn. State Lib. College & Ref. Sec. Special Lib. Assn. Mich. State Lib. Assn. Assn. of Am. Lib. Sch.	8:00 Council. Wk. with Negroes Rd. Table. Sch. Lib. Sec. Am. Assn. Law Lib.— Joint session with Natl. Assn. of State Libs. Lib. Bldg. Rd. Table. Training Class In- structors Rd. Table. Public Doc. Rd. Table. League of Lib. Com. Special Lib. Assn.— Group meeting.
<b>THURSDAY</b> June 29	Recreation Day—Visit to Ann Arbor. 10:00 Univ. Library Ex. Rd. Table at Ann Arbor. 10:30 Take train. 11:30 Arrive Ann Ar- bor. 12:15 Lunch at Univ. Union. Addresses.	2:00-4:00 Visit to Univ. Lib. and Campus. 4:30 Take train for Detroit. 4:00 Bibliographical Society of America.	6:30 Lib. Sch. Dinners and other dinner meet- ings. 8:30 Lib. of Rel. & Theol. Rd. Table. Natl. Assn. State Lib. Lib. Workers Assn. Children's Lib. Sec.— Business meeting. Special Lib. Assn.— Group meeting.
<b>FRIDAY</b> June 30	9:30 Fourth General Session.	2:30 Special Lib. Assn. Catalog Sec., Large and Small Libs. Sch. Lib. Sec., joint session with Chil- dren's Lib. Sec. Am. Assn. Law Lib. Agric. Lib. Sec. Lending Sec.	Am. Assn. Law Lib. Banquet. 8:00 Boat ride. Dancing. Plays, etc.
<b>SATURDAY</b> July 1	9:30 Fifth General Session.	2:30 Assn. Am. Lib. Schools, Lending Sec.	

\*By courtesy of A. L. A. Headquarters.

### A. L. A. Plans and Programs

The *Bulletin* of the A. L. A. for May contains the Conference program, travel announcements and other interesting matter relating both to the Detroit conference and to activities at A. L. A. headquarters. The following is extracted from the *Bulletin*.

There will be five general sessions at the meeting of the A. L. A. in Detroit. The convention will open on Monday night, June 26, with greetings from the Mayor of Detroit and the president of the Detroit common council. Mr M. L. Burton, president of the University of Michigan, will address the meeting in the evening, and President A. S. Root will deliver the usual address. A reception in the parlors of the hotel will follow the evening meeting.

The second session will be held Tuesday morning, and will be devoted to the subject of A. L. A. publications. The policy of the Editorial committee will be presented by Mr H. C. Wellman, Springfield, Mass., chairman of the committee, and the Needs not yet fulfilled, by Mr H. M. Lydenberg of the New York public library. A general discussion will be led by representatives of various kinds of libraries as follows:

Adelaide R. Hasse, special libraries; Marion Horton, school libraries and library schools; Andrew Keogh, college and reference libraries, and Howard L. Hughes, popular libraries.

The third session will be held on Wednesday morning, the subject being Recruiting for library service. The viewpoints of various persons engaged in different kinds of library work will be presented—Judson T. Jennings, Seattle; George H. Locke, Toronto; W. E. Henry, University of Washington; Miss Alice L. Rose, New York City; Miss Martha C. Pritchard, Detroit; Miss Clara W. Hunt, Brooklyn public library, and Miss Alice S. Tyler, Western Reserve library school.

The fourth session on Friday morning, June 30, will be devoted largely to reports of committees and officers and to several special interests.

The fifth session on Saturday morning, July 1, will be devoted to the subject, The individual's responsibility to his profession. The speakers will be H. H. Emmons, of Detroit Board of Commerce, Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine of Wisconsin and Adam Strohm of Detroit.

Groups interested in a small part of large subjects will meet on call at various times within the week in round-table conference to discuss topics called into question.

Various sections of the association are preparing the programs which will be carried out at Detroit.

The Cataloging section will meet on Tuesday, June 27. Training of catalogers will be the theme for discussion. The catalog department and its bibliographical work outside the department will be the second theme presented. Rarities of the Huntington library, Americanism as shown in the cataloging of local historical material, Making the large catalog usable, Music cataloging, Indexing, Maps, their care and cataloging, Cataloging problems in the small library, all will receive attention.

The Children's librarians' section has a number of active children's librarians on its program. At the first session, June 27, under the leadership of Miss Clara W. Hunt of the Public library of Brooklyn, Miss Margaret E. Carnegie of Pittsburgh, Miss Annie I. M. Jackson of Toronto, Marion F. Schwab of Brooklyn, Miss Mary S. Wilkinson, Muskegon, Michigan, and Miss Elizabeth D. Briggs, Cleveland, will present important factors in children's reading. At the second session, June 28, Mrs Mary E. S. Root, Providence, R. I., Miss Edith L. Smith, Morristown, N. J., Miss Jasmine Britton, Los Angeles, and Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, A. L. A. headquarters, will present other phases of children's work deserving attention.

The College and Reference section will hold its first meeting on June 28, under the leadership of Charles J. Barr of Yale university, New Haven, Connecticut. Committee reports on foreign periodicals, form for library statistics, cards for

monograph series, document catalog and check list, will be presented. Policies in inter-library loans will also be discussed. The university librarian will be discussed from a number of different angles. "A book-buying trip in Europe" will cover the experiences of Mr W. W. Bishop of the University of Michigan.

The Lending section, directed by John A. Lowe, Brooklyn, will hold its first meeting, June 30, when Fitting books to readers, Book needs of professional men, Technical and industrial books of today, Essential books of drama, and The reserve book system, will be presented. At the second session, July 1, subjects to be discussed are Loan desk work, Cures for mutilation and theft, Motion study at the loan desk, and the Psychology of work with the public.

The Library buildings round-table on Wednesday evening, June 28, will be conducted by Willis K. Stetson, New Haven, Connecticut. All persons interested in this section are asked to communicate with the chairman, Public library, New Haven, Connecticut.

The Professional training section, Sidney B. Mitchell, University of California, chairman, will discuss Correlation of library school and training class instruction, under the leadership of Miss Ethel R. Sawyer, Portland, Oregon. A report of the A. L. A. committee on library training, and reports on new features of training, by representatives of library schools, will be made. This section will meet on the evening of June 27.

The Public documents round-table, directed by H. H. B. Meyer, Library of Congress, will be held Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening, June 27 and 28.

The round-table on Work with negroes will be conducted by Miss Ernestine Rose, Public library, New York, Wednesday evening, June 28.

The School libraries section, Miss Marion Horton, Los Angeles, California, chairman, will meet on June 27 and 28, the subject for discussion at the first session being The relation of the high school librarian to the different departments of the school. Librarians experi-

enced in various subjects—history, science, etc., will present this subject from many viewpoints. At the second session, June 28, Arthur Pound of Flint, Michigan, will present Books and the Iron man. Books in the elementary grades, in high-schools and in normal schools will be presented by experienced librarians in those lines. On June 30, a round-table of school librarians of all divisions will listen to C. C. Certain of the Northwestern high school, Detroit, who will present a thesis on Children's reading. Teachers' and children's reading will be discussed by Miss Margaret Wright of the Cleveland public library; Reading in the elementary schools by Miss Ruth Paxson of the School department, Library association, Portland, Oregon, and Children's joy-reading by a speaker to be announced.

The Small libraries round-table, Miss Constance Bement, Port Huron, Michigan, chairman, will be held on June 27. A discussion of Standards of good library work for small librarians will be led by Miss Katharyne Sleneau of Highland Park, Michigan.

The Trustees' section, under the leadership of Frank H. Pettingell of Los Angeles, California, on Tuesday afternoon, will discuss the important topic, What must be done to secure increased funds from taxation for the needs of public libraries? (See P. L. for May.)

The University library extension service round-table, to be held on June 29, will discuss Forum teaching and the package library; Library extension service to club women; Sources of pamphlet material for library extension service; Organization and development of material for bulletins to be used in library extension service.

Work with the foreign born will be discussed at a round-table meeting on Tuesday afternoon, June 27, under the leadership of Mrs E. E. Ledbetter, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio. There will be informal discussion and exchange of views on Problems of book-buying in immigrant languages, Translations of English texts into foreign languages, and



the chairman will talk on the subject, Is the library democratic?

The Agricultural libraries section will present a formulated policy for agricultural libraries, led by Miss Mary G. Lacy, librarian of the U. S. D. A. Bureau of markets. Under *Organization* will be discussed: a) Question of combined or separate college and station libraries; b) Field of research, college or station library; c) Librarian, member of the faculty and committee on Extension.

Under *Administration*, led by Miss Olive Jones, librarian, Ohio State university, the discussion will cover: a) Purchase of books and periodicals by station or college; b) Selection of books by station staff or members of the department; c) Bulletins, methods of obtaining; how to get out-of-print material; duplication of sets and numbers; arrangement and care of material.

Under *Extension service* will be discussed: a) Extension work of the Agricultural college library; b) Coöperation with the Extension department of the college.

Each section of the program is allowed an hour for discussion.

The American association of law libraries (affiliated), in addition to numerous reports, will discuss System in law libraries, Biographies of law librarians, Problems of a law book writer, Indexing of statute law. Sketches of unique cases, chosen for their human legal interest and universality of appeal, will be given.

The Association of American library schools is scheduled to meet on Wednesday afternoon, June 28. The second session will be held on Saturday afternoon, July 1.

The Bibliographical Society of America will hold a meeting on June 29 at Ann Arbor. The subject presented will be Resources for American history in libraries, public and private, of the Great Lakes region.

The Special Libraries association, Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., president, will hold three general sessions and three group meetings on June 27, 28 and 29. The general field of discussion will be,

The special librarian, his personality, his training and his objective. Speakers from outside fields who are particularly interested in special libraries and their work will address these meetings.

The National association of State librarians, J. M. Hitt, state librarian of Washington, president, will meet on June 28 and will discuss Library administration, state and county; State library service to rural communities and the Future of the library association. A round-table on legislative reference problems will also be held.

The League of Library commissions will hold two sessions, the first on June 27, under the leadership of William R. Watson, and the second on June 28, conducted by Mrs E. C. Earl. All state and administrative boards, as well as members of library commissions are included in this division.

#### Local information

A local committee of Detroit will give special care to the matters of transportation, information, hotels, excursions, hospitality, publicity and other questions which may affect the comfort and pleasure of those attending the meetings. Guide books and maps of the city and vicinity will be provided and information of all kinds, given. Local committees will arrange for excursions about the city, and a number of automobiles will be available for drives around the boulevards and parks. (One may "flee to Canada" for ten cents!)

#### Entertainment

Among the entertainments planned for the visitors is a moonlight excursion trip on the Detroit river and Lake St. Clair. The children's librarians are to be entertained at a breakfast on Belle Isle, for which they are asked to register acceptance at an early date. The Detroit public library staff will serve tea each afternoon in their Main library room, from four to five o'clock. The Society of Arts and Crafts has extended a cordial invitation

to the A. L. A. members to visit its rooms.

Mrs Madelene Hirth, chairman, Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, Miss Flora B. Roberts and Gordon Thayer comprise the A. L. A. entertainment committee.

Provision has been made for the annual dinners to be held on Thursday evening and this day, too, has been set down for a visit to Ann Arbor. A special train, special entertainment and various arrangements have been provided for the comfort and pleasure of the visitors.

The officers ask that all persons attending the convention register at A. L. A. headquarters immediately upon arrival. A registration fee of one dollar is now required of all except those who have paid the initiation fee during the current year.

William Weber, Detroit public library, will offer assistance to any one who has not been able to make hotel arrangements in finding quarters in Detroit.

Exhibits by the A. L. A., library commissions and libraries, as well as those by supply houses, publishers, etc., will be found on the thirteenth floor of the Hotel Statler.

In connection with the county library exhibit, President Root will deliver a radio talk on County libraries. This will be broadcasted by the *Detroit News* and will be received by the convention at one of its general meetings.

All A. L. A. Rotary members who expect to attend the A. L. A. meeting at Detroit are asked to send their names to Geo T. Settle, librarian, Public library, Louisville, Ky. This in preparation of a Rotary luncheon to be given within the week of the meeting.

#### Progress of the Towner-Sterling Bill

In order that there might be more definite information regarding the Towner-Sterling bill before the members at the meeting in July, a committee of the N. E. A. called on President Harding, by appointment, on May 5 to ascertain, if possible, his attitude in the matter.

The committee was assured of the President's interest in the program of the N. E. A. and received the impression that he will recommend the creation of a Department of Education and Welfare, in which education shall hold the first place and that the extension of Federal aid for the promotion of education will be conceded. If these recommendations are approved by the committee on reorganization of the Executive departments and enacted into law by Congress (this may spell a long, wearisome journey), education will be given more national recognition than it has ever received, by educational activities being brought together in one department, administered under a Secretary of Education and Welfare.

#### N. E. A. Library Department

##### Program of meetings

The meetings of the library department of the N. E. A. will be held in the Public library hall, Boston, Mass., July 3-5-6-7-8.

On Wednesday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, a discussion of the topic, How shall adequate library service be established where it is not now developed? will be considered by the following:

1) In the school. Martha C. Pritchard, Teacher's college, Detroit, Michigan.

2) In the locality. Sarah B. Askew, Public Library commission, Trenton, New Jersey.

3) In the state. James I. Wyer, director of State library, Albany, New York.

4) In the nation. Joy E. Morgan, editor on *The Journal of the National Education Association*, Washington, D. C.

Other topics will be: Libraries and the rural schools, Florence M. Hale, Augusta, Maine; The consolidated rural school library, Ruth E. Drake, Chazy, N. Y.; Libraries and librarians, Dr Sherman Williams, Albany, N. Y.

A luncheon on Wednesday at noon will precede the meeting and will be

given at the Hotel Vendome. There will be a number of talks by persons prominent in library work on library topics. Those expecting to attend the luncheon, should notify Orlando C. Davis, Waltham, Mass., as early as possible.

On Thursday afternoon, the program will cover: How the library helps the foreigner to make his American contribution, Ernestine Rose, New York City; Effective coöperation between the public library and the public school, Bertha McConkey, Springfield, Mass.; The daily newspaper in school, O. S. Rice, Madison, Wis.; The spirit of library service, Mrs Edward Carter, Port Arthur, Texas; Story telling, its relation to literary appreciation, Edith C. Parker, Buffalo, N. Y.; The pupil's contribution to the success of the school library, Mary E. Hall, Brooklyn, N. Y.

On Friday, July 7, at 2 p. m., there will be a joint session with the National council of teachers of English. The following program will be given.

Books for boys, A. B. de Mille, Winthrop Highlands, Mass.; Opportunities in Junior high school work, Laura Grove Smith, Los Angeles, Cal.; The stimulation of home reading, Helen Cosgrove, New York City; Training for school librarians, Ruth Tobey, Terre Haute, Ind.; The child's own reading, Frederic G. Melcher, New York City; Library work in normal schools to fit its students for their work in teaching, Mary E. Richardson, State normal school, Geneseo, N. Y.

Election of officers, hearing reports and other business matters as may properly come before the meeting, will be taken up on Saturday morning, July 8, at 10 o'clock.

The Newspaper club of New York City has appointed as its Library committee:

Chairman, Thoreau Croun of the *New York Herald*; Don Marquis of the *New York Sun* and Edwin M. Jenks (N. Y. S. L., '03) of the *New York Herald*. Mr. Jenks will act as librarian.

### American Library Institute

#### Meeting for 1922.

The American Library Institute held two sessions on Friday, April 28, at Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City. One of the pleasures of the Institute meetings is that there is little or no preliminary business and informality of the widest type is enjoyed.

Dr C. W. Andrews, librarian of the John Crerar library, Chicago, called the meeting to order and proceeded to deliver his presidential address.

He characterized the Institute as a comparatively small body of persons of more than average age and experience in library work. As nearly all its members occupy executive positions and as it has an income only sufficient for its moderate administrative expenses it is evidently not a body capable of executing plans for library work and it is probably not especially well fitted to devise them. But it should be admirably adapted to discuss plans and it was in the hope that this opinion might be justified that the program for the Atlantic City meeting was arranged.

It has been held by quite a number of people, said Dr Andrews, that the A. L. A. council offers sufficient opportunity for such discussion. The first consideration which leads to a differentiation of the meeting of the Institute and the Council is that the latter is charged most emphatically by the new constitution with the duty of determining the policy of the A. L. A. Its time in the future, even more than in the past, will be given to consideration of plans proposed by the executive board or brought before it by the affiliated organizations. It is evident that there will be little opportunity for the discussion of plans in their earlier stages, when the consideration of principles and broad outlines are most needed. Such consideration might well be given by the Institute.

Secondly, there is the differentiation in the point of view. Members of the council have always to consider first the interests of the association as a

whole and, secondly, those of the institutions or groups of institutions which they represent, while the members of the Institute are elected as individuals and as such are free to regard any subject without special reference to the particular interests of the institution with which they may be connected.

If then the Institute finds it possible to consider a wider range of subjects than the Council and from a somewhat different point of view, there still remains the question of making the best out of its deliberations. In the opinion of Dr Andrews this would not be by votes or direct advice on matters which are or may be brought before the council, but possibly by the preparation of briefs which shall give succinctly the arguments pro and con and across. Such a presentation might well shorten and clarify the discussions of the Council and if this should prove to be the case, the latter might in time come to ask the Institute to discuss a question which has been or is likely to be brought up. Thus there might arise a relation between the two bodies not unlike that between the General Government and the National Academy of Sciences, beneficial to both and to the library world in general, without affecting in the least degree the independence or prerogatives of either.

Dr E. C. Richardson of Princeton university read a paper on "University library coöperation and business engineering," in which he summed up what had been said and done in the nature of experimentation in the field of library coöperation for the last 20 years but viewed as a starting point for future effort. He showed that the idea of coöperation, latent in all civilized institutions, is obvious in the distribution of library operations. Librarians understand quite well that two, three, and even ten times as much work may be produced by studied management as by rule-of-thumb methods on the one hand or ultra-conventionalized methods on the other.

Library service has two fundamental aspects,—the primary one of connecting the reader with a book that he knows that he wants to use, and the secondary one of connecting a reader with a book that he ought to use. The latter is properly an educational, informational, and bibliographical task, not a library task, but it has been thoroly and happily grafted on and is a most valuable time-saver for library users. The two methods of library service are exemplified in, first, taking the books to the reader and, second, taking the reader to the book. Or in other words, serving the reader and helping the reader serve himself. It has been estimated that in the Princeton University library 10 books are used for self-help to one by desk delivery or, say, a million users to a hundred thousand volumes served over the desk. The instruments of self help are open shelves, classification, and simplified catalogs.

Delivery service is essential, fundamental, and in the case of large libraries must be carried to a still higher degree of development. In libraries like that of the British Museum it must necessarily be the main service.

The problem of coöperation between libraries rests upon the principle that any amount of coöperation is justified when the results are increased certainty and productiveness of use in such a way and to such an extent that it will save more than it costs,—and if the cost can be provided for. Practical coöperation among American libraries had its germs far back in the time of Jewett of the Smithsonian and Dr Ezra Abbott at Harvard, in the first Poole index, and in the studies of Dewey and Biscoe over the beginnings of decimal classification.

The American Library Association is essentially one for coöperation. Its main objectives have been in the field of popular education and in the development of library management. As an instrument for organized coöperative thinking on the thousand and one details of our technical library tasks it has been the means of our rapid progress in

economic library management and the agent for promoting that farther step in library coöperation, the organized undertaking of productive tasks by groups of libraries. One is impressed with the incredible saving produced by the Library of Congress printed cards. Coöperation in purchase is perhaps the least developed of all aspects, altho by its nature it is the most promising of all fields for the practical application of business principles of coöperation.

Passing to the matter of needs, the two things that stand out as most called for are 1) the location or purchase of infrequent books, and 2) the analytical indexing and abstracting, especially of scientific literature. Heretofore, when attention has been called to the situation, we have been told that the missing books are not of much importance and that those that we have are the best, the high peaks, and that we need not concern ourselves about the rest.

Dr Richardson illustrated by specific instances the difficulties of the American research student in various fields. The remedy suggested was the purchase by coöperation of more "source books." It has long been obvious that the twenty-nine principal university libraries (containing twelve million volumes, and spending a million dollars a year for books and as much more for administration) could solve the problem if they would. They form an ideal field for the application of coöperative methods on a large scale. In closing, Dr Richardson offered the following resolution looking to coöperation and perhaps initiation by the Institute and the American Library Association:

Resolved, that the Institute Board be requested to appoint a committee out of A. L. A. members of the Institute and ask the American Library Association to appoint a larger committee including these members, to consider inaugurating at once coöperation in the getting of research books and the possibilities of the early development and application of other coöperation plans.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Dr M. L. Raney of Johns Hopkins university speaking on "Tariff and Copyright legislation," reported that in the Senate committee's revision of the House tariff measure, presented April 11, the rate is kept at 15 per cent on foreign valuation (25 per cent if book is of American authorship). The limit on number of copies allowed free importation is removed, while the following are restored to the free list:

1. Foreign language books.
2. Books printed and bound more than twenty years.
3. The immigrant's books (and necessary household effects).

"Duty free text-books are missed, but on this point reconsideration is probable, and it is but fair to say that the concession of unlimited importation was intended to meet this need.

The rate compromise suggested by us at the last hour, after the bill had gone to press, is a concession to the book binders, as is also the requirement that the old books must not be in new bindings to escape duty, and the provision of the 45 per cent duty on books, the chief value of which lies in their leather binding.

Under the copyright measure about to be introduced, repealing the manufacturing clause in the existing law, in order to clear the way to American entrance into the International Copyright Union, the publishers have included a clause allowing institutions and individuals to import for use and not for sale single copies of

"any book as published in the country of origin with the authorization of the author, or copyright proprietor . . . provided the publisher of the American edition of such book has (within ten days after written demand) declined or neglected to agree to supply such copy."

Librarians oppose this proviso because under the guise of safeguarding copyright it puts in the hands of American publishers the monopoly of the country's book importations. This follows irrespective of whether the United States enters the Union or stops at the repeal of the manufacturing cause. Inside, (virtually) all European books would enjoy



American copyright. Outside, such right would be established by mere compliance with the formality of notice, deposit and registration. Without cost, or for a dollar and a copy, according as we were in or out of the Union, the price of an edition would in a twinkling shift from the foreign price to the American. The depreciation of foreign money would make sole agencies mutually alluring. What the international publisher would do is not a matter of conjecture. His catalogs are already in print. Thus, Macmillan is found to be charging for his importations an average of 38.3 cents per shilling. Under the existing law we can escape by buying abroad, but with this deadly proviso enacted we must come to him or do without. As for the author, for whom copyright law was called into existence, he is lost in the shuffle.

Mr J. C. M. Hanson, of University of Chicago, on behalf of the Committee on printed cards for monographs and series, reported that they had received word from a score of libraries indicating their willingness to coöperate in the purchase of cards for all or part of the analyticals for some 57 titles submitted by the committee. With the required number of subscriptions in for over one-half of the titles and the necessary coöperation assured for the preparation of entries, the committee feels that its work has not been in vain.

By way of introduction to his paper on the Vatican library, Theodore W. Koch of Northwestern university gave a pen picture of the newly elected Pope, Pius XI, who as Monsignor Ratti was prefect of the Vatican library during the period of the World war. The history of the collection of manuscripts by the different popes was sketched broadly from the fourteenth century to the present day. The chief characteristics of the various periods of the growth of the library were pointed out and the special interests of the various benefactors were emphasized. The present state of the library was described briefly and attention called to the liberalized policy of recent administrators

which has served to make the collections more useful to visiting scholars.

Mr H. M. Lydenberg of New York public library spoke on the "Proposed Union List of periodicals" and especially on the raising of a guarantee fund. It was suggested that the publication might be financed by some three dozen libraries paying say a thousand dollars each, receiving in return a certain number of extra copies of which they would have the disposal. Mr Bowker was of the opinion that some of the research and industrial foundations might be looked to for a part of the necessary support. Dr Andrews thought that if the list were issued in monthly parts they might be subscribed for by libraries interested and the payment spread over several years.

THEODORE W. KOCH,  
Secretary.

#### The Ontario Library Association Report on annual meeting

There were two main topics on the program of the twenty-second annual meeting of Ontario library association, held in Toronto, Easter Monday and Tuesday, April 17-18. The first of these topics was the rural library upon which the program contained the following papers: "The rural library and its place in the community—What it is and What it might be," Rev Neil Campbell, Ilderton; "The County Library system with special reference to Great Britain and the United States," Miss Dorothy A. Thompson, B. A., Public Libraries branch, Department of Education, Toronto; "Rural library extension," Paul M. Paine, Litt. D., chief librarian, Public library, Syracuse, New York.

Unfortunately, Mr Campbell was unable to be present when his paper was called, but Miss Thompson and Dr Paine gave admirable papers, informing and suggestive to a very high degree.

The discussion that followed this topic was suggestive and decidedly optimistic and a committee was appointed

to study this matter of Rural library extension, to report at a later meeting.

The second main topic was that of Books, treated in the following papers: The presidential address, Bearing of letters and memoirs on history, W. J. Sykes, B. A., Ottawa; Books and life, Rev W. T. Herridge, M. A., D. D., Ottawa; "Let the Other Side be heard," Dr Paul M. Paine, Syracuse; "Nature books," F. J. A. Morris, M. A., Peterborough; "Brief notes on travel books," Miss Agnes Lancefield, Windsor; Fred. Landon, M. A., London; "Russia," Miss Mabel Dunham, B. A. Kitchener, "Greece."

The discussions following the presentation of the papers of these two main topics were spirited and generally participated in.

The speakers drew from their own experience and personal reaction in regard to the books and were definite and informative in what they had to offer.

The round tables on Tuesday afternoon dealt with book selection for 1921 books, led by Miss Agnes Lancefield, Windsor; Reference books, by Miss M. H. Baxter, London; and Children's work, by Miss Lillian H. Smith, B. A., Toronto.

The exhibit of books and library supplies in the hall leading to the assembly room was a very attractive feature, several new firms being represented this year.

Another interesting topic was that of Canadian book week. The libraries were thanked for their effective coöperation in Canadian book week of 1921, by Mr Hugh S. Eayrs, secretary of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Authors' association. Mr Eayrs also announced that a bigger and better Canadian book week would be promoted for 1922.

The report of the treasurer showed a satisfactory financial condition, and the secretary's report reviewed the work of the year in Ontario; Canada; United States; Great Britain; with some references to other parts of the world.

The attendance was satisfactory,

about 75 public libraries being represented, and nearly 20 other libraries and publishing firms. A very interesting fact in the matter of attendance was the presence of 10 out of 16 living past-presidents of the association.

Dr Locke and his staff and the Public Library board had gone to no end of trouble to provide the kindest of receptions and to make the library building look its best. These attentions were greatly appreciated by the meeting.

A most interesting feature was the appearance of the Public Library glee club, under the leadership of Mr Henry Button, who sang two groups of songs. This innovation greatly delighted the association.

The presence of the following American guests was very much appreciated: Dr Paul M. Paine, Syracuse, and Mrs Paine; Mr H. J. Gaylord and Mr Forrest B. Spaulding, Syracuse; and Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, Chicago, representing the American Library Association. Miss Bogle extended a cordial invitation to the Ontario library association to attend the Detroit meeting at the close of June; and also assisted in the round-table on children's work.

The officers for the coming year are as follows:

President, W. H. Murch, Public library, St. Thomas; First vice-president, W. Briden, B. A., Public library, St. Catharines; Second vice-president, G. W. Rudlen, B. A., Public library, Sault Ste. Marie; Secretary-treasurer, E. A. Hardy, B. A., D. Paed., 81 Collier St., Toronto.

Councillors: Miss Lillian H. Smith, B. A., Public library, Toronto; C. A. Byam, Public library, New Liskeard; F. M. DeLaFosse, Public library, Peterborough; Fred. Landon, M. A., Public library, London; W. G. Ward, Public library, Niagara Falls, Ont.; W. J. Sykes, B. A., Ex-president, Carnegie library, Ottawa.

E. A. HARDY,  
Secretary.

### Meetings at Atlantic City

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association was held at Atlantic City, April 28-29, 1922.

#### The Pennsylvania library club

The first session was held under the direction of the Pennsylvania library club, Friday evening, with the president of the club, Asa Don Dickinson, in the chair. A brief address of welcome was made by the Honorable Edward T. Bader, mayor of Atlantic City.

\*John H. Leete, director of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, gave the first address, "Our appeal as a profession." Mr Leete quoted Herbert Spencer's statement that "professions are for the augmentation of life," but said that tho that might furnish a starting point for the discussion, it did not fully determine the question or differentiate some professions from allied trades.

#### Christopher Morley

The second speaker was Christopher Morley, who gave his usual humorous and entertaining address. Altho scheduled to speak on "The anatomy of biblioprudence," Mr Morley discussed among other things, the art of public speaking, which he said, consists in "patting a platitude until it purrs like an epigram." Mr Morley spoke also upon the making of a poet. The young poet begins to compose, he said, about the age of 16 or 17. At that time his theme is usually "death." His first sonnet is probably "To a skull," the last line of which ends something like this: "One thing alone is sure, that is death." The second stage of the poet's career finds him imagining himself in love with a superior being who loves him in return with an almost embarrassing profusion. Maud Adams is usually his first divinity. In the third stage, the poet takes his first job. Here he dallies with robust themes, vagabondage, economic and social questions, plentitude of malt liquor, etc. In the fourth stage the poet is likely to take up very

serious themes, history of the Republican party, poetical and historical subjects, vegetarianism; and he begins to realize that if one is going to collapse it is best to collapse over a small delicivty.

Mr Morley said he did not mean to belittle the minor poets; that poetry to be great and real does not have to deal with lofty and grandiloquent themes, and that no finer subjects may be found than the every-day emotions and problems. The complexities of home life may be as inspiring and as complicated as any questions of statesmanship. It was just as difficult a matter, he said, to keep a baby from kicking off its blankets as to keep a young nation from kicking off its frontiers when no one was looking. In concluding his address, Mr Morley, read several of his short poems, among them, "The house where brown eyes are," "Refusing you immortality," "My pipe," "To Louise, a Christmas baby," "The high chair."

George R. Prowell, curator and librarian of the Historical society of York County, Pennsylvania, gave a brief address, "The lost diary of Washington." Mr Prowell said he first read of this diary in another diary of Washington, which was edited by Lossing. About the same time, in 1855, while looking thru some early records in the court house at York, Pennsylvania, he found a bill for £2 18s paid in 1791 by the county commissioners "for 42 pounds of candles to illuminate the court house in honor of the President of the United States." This was the first tangible evidence of Washington's visit to York. During the speaker's experience as a newspaper correspondent in Washington City, he was given the privilege, with another gentleman, of searching thru some unclassified documents. One day he found two small books, and upon examining them, found them to be the lost diary of Washington, in his own handwriting, covering the period from 1791 to the end of his life. A *verbatim* copy of this diary was made and then Mr

\*Mr. Leete's paper is given in full on p. 317.

Prowell searched thru early newspapers published in the United States at that time for reference to Washington while he was president in New York and Philadelphia, and for an account of his tour of the South in the summer of 1791. Mr Prowell made excerpts from the newspaper articles that he found on the subject, and then published these, with Washington's own accounts taken from his diary, in three of the well-known daily papers in this country.

The Friday evening session was concluded by the announcement of Frederick W. Faxon, chairman of the Travel committee of the American Library Association regarding the annual meeting at Detroit in June.

A trustees' section, under the direction of the Pennsylvania library club, was held Saturday afternoon, April 29, at 2:30. Dr Thomas Lynch Montgomery, Litt.D. librarian of the Pennsylvania Historical society, presided. The subject discussed at this meeting was "the library trustee"; the speakers were Henry D. Brown, trustee of the James V. Brown library, Williamsport, Pennsylvania; Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Esq., trustee of the Free library of Philadelphia, and president of the Civil Service commission of Philadelphia; and R. R. Bowker, editor of *The Library Journal*.

Dr Montgomery, in his introductory remarks, emphasized the importance of the library trustee, and said that he believed the trustees should meet at all the local conventions, as well as at the annual meetings of the American Library Association. He said that they needed to get together more and discuss the problems that confronted their individual boards of trustees. Mr Brown, the first speaker, outlined a plan formulated at the 1921 fall meeting of the Keystone State library association, whereby a trustee section was created, of which he was made temporary chairman. The idea in creating such a section was thru it, to reach all library trustees in Pennsylvania, interest them in the library movement in general, and

in their own libraries in particular. Letters were sent to all free libraries in Pennsylvania, asking each to send one trustee, to the annual meeting of the Keystone State library association to be held in Altoona in October, 1922. The hope of this Trustees section is that as a result of this meeting, a new interest will be aroused in the trustees, and a closer bond will therefore be formed between each library and its board of trustees. The conditions in Pennsylvania are chaotic, Mr Brown said. He believes that the library trustee can do much to promote the interest and the usefulness of the library; that he must be made to feel his responsibility in this direction. If he does not, then he should not continue to be a member of any board of trustees. The tentative program proposed for the Trustees section of the Keystone State library association for the 1922 meeting contains the following subjects:

- Statement of progress by the temporary chairman, Henry D. Brown.
- Library support by municipal or school board aid; Main points of the two sets of laws. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Esq.
- Reports of budgets from 20 Pennsylvania libraries and deductions therefrom.
- Libraries: a neglected asset of most cities.
- Can the library idea be sold?
- County library systems—Why not? "Let's go."

Mr Brown hoped, he said, that it would be possible to formulate plans whereby library standards and administration, and methods of support, may be simplified and made uniform. A trustee should acquire enough knowledge of library technique to help him understand the problems of the librarian with whom he has to deal, so that they may work together more intelligently and effectively.

Dr Montgomery introduced Mr Clinton Rogers Woodruff as one of the most sincere and most effective of trustees. Mr Woodruff said that the average person does not realize what a good sized library has to do; nor the responsibility that is upon a board of trustees. This board must be composed of people who are known for the

ability with which they execute any trust placed upon them; and they must have understanding of matters of investment. The responsibility for salaries is theirs. Tho the real responsibility rests with the legislature, or the city council, the board of trustees makes the proper recommendations. Mr Woodruff said that he realized that library salaries in Philadelphia and in Pennsylvania are grossly inadequate, but that every effort is being made, particularly in Philadelphia, to rectify this situation. It is the primary duty of the trustees to assure adequate appropriations both for salaries and for books. All suggestions should come from the librarian, and he should, whenever possible, be supported by his board of trustees. New buildings must be erected; and old buildings must be maintained. The aim must be to have "a good collection of books in a good building." Mr Woodruff explained the difficulties that have been encountered in Philadelphia over the erection of the new main building. Already there have been four law suits in connection with it—these in turn have involved others—and so it has gone.

The board of trustees must keep in touch with the librarian, and be able to give him, or her, as the case may be, advice on all important points. In Philadelphia, Mr Woodruff explained, those *present* at a trustees' meeting, constitute a quorum, and there is always a goodly group of men present. The Board authorizes necessary business and discusses policies; but details are carried on in committees. Any board of trustees must be considered a court of last appeal for serious difficulties. Mr Woodruff emphasized the fact that very much of the success that a board of trustees achieves is due to the zeal and energy of the librarian.

Mr Woodruff believes that members of a board of trustees should come into frequent contact with the library staff. Closer affiliation with the staff is advisable in order that the members may understand the policies of the board, and therefore there will be finer of trustees.

coöperation. Mr Woodruff said he thoroly approved of the plan outlined in Mr Brown's paper. None should assume the responsibility of the office of trustee unless he is willing to assume the serious duties that it carries, which are manifold. In conclusion Mr Woodruff emphasized the need for coöperation between the librarian, his staff, and his board of trustees.

Mr R. R. Bowker gave an instructive address on the methods of procedure employed by the three boards of trustees of which he is a member. He explained that the Brooklyn public library has once a month, a meeting of the board of trustees. This board has the following committees:

A committee on administration, books, buildings, finance and law.

The committee on administration considers every promotion and discharge and leaves of absences. The committee on books, practically accepts from the librarian, the lists of books for purchase. The committee on buildings takes care of branch and new buildings; and the committee on finance has, of course, to deal with questions of money, salaries, etc. In Brooklyn, Mr Bowker said, the board of trustees is a final Court of Appeals, tho seldom have cases come before it.

Mr Bowker explained also the workings of a small town library in Massachusetts, upon whose board of trustees he serves. There are women serving upon this board. The board of trustees in this case does the work of actual suggestion for the purchase of books. The relation between the town and the board is interesting; one member being elected by the town, the others being regularly appointed, as is done in most cities. Mr Bowker said that serious difficulties in procuring necessary appropriations are sometimes encountered in boards constituted of political appointments only. In closing, he also emphasized the necessity of very close coöperation between the librarian and his or her, board



### New Jersey library association

The first session of the New Jersey library association held at the Hotel Chelsea, Friday afternoon, was devoted to business details and to the discussion of budget-making, book-buying and business methods. Miss Burnett of Dover introduced the subject of budget-making, Miss Baillet of Irvington, book-buying and Miss Gillies of Edgewater, business methods. In each case, after the introduction, there was a general discussion from the floor. At the end of the meeting the following were elected officers for the coming year:

President, James T. Gerould, librarian, Princeton university library; first vice-president, Arthur Mack, trustee, Edgewater public library; second vice-president, Miss Alta Barker, librarian Montclair public library; secretary, Miss Lynda Phillips, librarian, Chatham public library; treasurer, Miss Kate Brower, Orange public library.

### Certification of library service

The Saturday morning session was given up entirely to the discussion of this subject. The two principal speakers were Azariah S. Root, librarian, Oberlin College library, president, American Library Association, and John Cotton Dana, librarian, Free public library, Newark, N. J.

Mr Root speaking for the affirmative took up the following questions: Is certification desirable as a policy? If it is desirable, what kind of qualifications should there be? Who should be the judges?

Some kind of certification is advisable so that the right kind of service be given a community and that the public be protected against inefficiency and lack of knowledge. So far there have been no satisfactory alternatives. Civil Service has not worked out, neither has the individualistic method of letting each library look after itself in cases where the library boards are not competent, where the librarian is not equal to the proper selection of a staff, or where the community is not all it

should be. Certification would see that the right person—the library school graduate—is in the higher positions, the less highly trained persons in the lower places. Many other professions—lawyers, doctors, teachers—are certified so that the public may be protected. Certification is not merely a library policy.

In deciding upon the kind of qualifications for any certification scheme, library work must first be divided into the tasks:

1) Which are purely mechanical, such as pasting and stamping of books, which would call only for a high-school graduate.

2) Those which are semi-mechanical, such as charging, slipping, shelf work, typing of duplicate catalog cards, and which require in addition to graduation from high-school, some actual library experience but not library school training.

3) And those which also take into account the personal qualifications of the candidate and which require library school, or college and library school graduation—such as bibliographical work, book selection, cataloging, reference work.

In addition, in deciding upon the qualifications needed there should be consideration of the places where libraries are situated as the needs vary.

In conclusion, Mr Root said, "Librarians must be the judges. There must be no chance for interference by politicians. The librarian must decide upon the professional qualifications. The whole scheme must be worked out by librarians."

Mr Dana, who is opposed to certification, prefaced his talk by saying that as certification was sure to come he was not certain whether it was worth while to try to stem the tide. The country is drifting toward socialism and the tendency is to put more and more faith in governmentalism, and librarians, like all others, are tending in the same direction.

Mr Root had said that librarians must protect the public against them-

selves! Even the profession of medicine is not sufficiently protected against itself. The best protector of the librarian is himself. Today professions are safe-guarded by state legislation and candidates must take examinations to get in. But let us not forget that the important things done in the United States are done not by those certificated. Yet we librarians, must protect ourselves by certificates!

How is this certification to be done? By politicians? It is certain that these new boards will be similar to civil service commissions, taking the control from the librarians themselves. The alternative—management of libraries by the librarians—has in the course of 40 years worked for progress. An outside board will not be an improvement. For if the board of trustees is not qualified to decide upon a candidate, if a librarian cannot either, why have another board, one who knows less than either board of trustees or librarian?

Librarians have their own lives at stake. Only as they do well, will they succeed. This pressure to do well comes from the librarian himself. The certification scheme will take away some of this pressure and some of this responsibility.

Statistics show that even with the increased printing facilities and opportunities for reading in the last 50 years, libraries have had comparatively small effect on the public. Librarians form a small group. To make themselves felt in the community they must press on. They must develop their own ideas, they must keep wide awake. But if we follow Mr Root's suggestions as to qualifications, etc., we keep out new ideas, and new ideas are needed. We want not the conventional librarian, but the thinker. Certification will be a barrier to real thinking.

Dr Andrews of the John Crerar library, Chicago, said that he was in accord with Mr Dana's presentation and was of the opinion that what was lacking in library service today could

not in fairness be laid to the absence of the power of certification.

Mr Roden of Chicago public library spoke for municipal civil service as it applied in his own library where they made out the questions, marked the papers and passed on the qualifications of the growing staff. He referred to himself as an exhibit, selected, developed and the finished product of civil service which he was ready to pronounce an effective, equitable and fair method of dealing with library workers.

In the discussion that followed, participated in by a large number, it became evident that any compulsory certification scheme would be unwise; that if libraries cannot get assistants now because of lack of funds, certification would not relieve the situation; and that certification would not help out in the matter of personal qualifications of assistants, qualifications which were most important in library work.

Miss Parsons moved that the association go on record as against the certification plan. This was amended by Mr Dana who moved that the association go on record as opposed to compulsory certification. This was unanimously carried.

Miss Askew spoke of the untrained librarian of the small library and the untrained worker and of their need of definite recognition for summer school and short library courses. At present no matter how many of these courses the untrained librarian may take, she receives no credit. Miss Askew, therefore, moved that a committee be appointed to ask the library schools and the American Library Association to coöperate in giving credit for summer school and other short courses in library economy. This motion was seconded and unanimously carried. Miss Winsor appointed Miss Askew, Miss Pratt, Miss Parsons, Miss Van Dyne to serve on this committee.

ADELINE T. DAVIDSON,  
N. J. Secretary.

### Joint meeting

At the joint meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and New Jersey library association, Saturday evening, Mr La Monte, first vice-president of the New Jersey association, and chairman of the meeting, spoke on "The will to peace," in the unavoidable absence of Mr Neilson, co-editor of *The Freeman*, who was to have been the speaker for the New Jersey association. Mr La Monte recalled Kipling's *Recessional*, Wilfred Owen's *Parable of the young men and the old men*, as poems which had given us a lasting message of war. But with war over, we should now turn our minds from it towards lasting peace. The conference at Washington, he thought, accomplished many things in this direction, and, it is for all of us to help to make this ideal become a reality.

The speaker for the Pennsylvania library club was Joseph Wharton Lippincott, vice-president of the J. B. Lippincott Company. "Truth in Literature" was the title of Mr Lippincott's address.

Literature, Mr Lippincott said, should, among other things, be the guardian and disseminator of truth, the permanent record for all time. If it is not, then it is not worth the trouble taken in storing it in libraries, whether they are private or public; it is not worth good binding, or even the good paper on which it is printed. In addition, it may be dangerous, and in unscrupulous hands an active menace, all because of the fact that it is generally taken seriously. In illustration of this fact, Mr Lippincott reminded the audience of the influence that certain teachings of German writers, as spread in books, had had in bringing on the last great war. The Russian situation of today is due to the use by stump speakers and by the press, of certain quotations which suited their purposes, and which, because they were said to be taken from books, were accepted without question by the Russian masses, as if that fact alone guaranteed that they expressed the truth. In the matter of

United States histories, the writer's view-point colors his history; and points of view, Mr Lippincott said, depend on age as well as on learning, and even on the liver. We find the same thing in exaggerated form in differences shown in the writings of leaders of opposing factions. For instance, would Ludendorf be likely to agree with Foch in his narrative of the fighting on the French front? Some one might answer "no"; yet only one can be correct on a disputed point.

MARTHA L. COPLIN,  
Penn. Sec.

[This was a fresh, unhackneyed, evidently sincere appeal for a more serious attitude in judging new books, and for the sympathy of the librarians toward honest publishers who are trying to solve this perplexing problem. —Editor P. L.]

### New England College Librarians

Brown University library was the host to this informal gathering of May 12 and 13, 1922. No meeting was held in 1921 because of the Swampscott meeting of the A. L. A. The roll call of librarians showed 27 present from other staffs than Brown.

Friday afternoon was featured by a talk by Professor Theodore Collier of the department of History and a member of the Library committee, on "What the professor wants the library to be." He emphasized the college library as a universal laboratory to help the students make friends with books. The building therefore should be central and conspicuous, standing as a symbol of the unity of knowledge. Within, it should be arranged conveniently as a workshop; the books, the seminar rooms, and all should suggest intellectual exertion. For the professor, the library is a coordinating agency, functioning to harmonize and equalize so that all the departments may be best served. The librarian is a colleague, but on a different footing from the relation existing between the professors themselves; he is neither superior nor inferior, but works in coöperation with all of them. The library should conserve the intellectual

life of the college; the library staff should coöperate with the professor in making the appeal to the intellectual side of the students' lives. This can be done by acquainting the students with the library and making the books mean something to them, making them vital. This can be accomplished by taking the students in small groups and explaining to them the various parts of the library system and the uses of books. As for the catalog, there are two extremes: the professor who wishes every set analyzed, and the one who cares only to know that the book he has ordered has arrived. The aim should be maximum usefulness and convenience; uniformity, tho desirable, must give way to local needs. In shelving, only active books should be placed before the students, unused and dust-covered books do not appeal to them; "bibliographical amputation" is necessary to retire the obsolete books, sequestering them in some place out of sight and yet from which they can be brought if needed.

Various libraries on "College Hill" were inspected Friday afternoon, not only those of the university, but also Col. Shepley's newly-built library of Rhode Islandiana housing both books and specimens, and the Annmary Brown memorial featuring incunabula.

Friday evening, Dr Harry Lyman Koopman, librarian of Brown university, gave an illustrated lecture on "Book design" showing examples of format doing honor to the contents. He had the books on exhibition and a social hour followed the talk.

Saturday morning was spent in the discussion of subjects that had been suggested. Mr Wilder of Bowdoin presented statistics gathered by him from the various college libraries represented, which, while he felt they were incomplete without annotations and unsatisfactory in many cases, nevertheless gave a basis for deduction that the average library budget is about 6 per cent of the total college budget; and that the amount spent for library administrative expenses is never less than the amount spent for accessions, but varies from some libraries showing an almost equal amount to one-

and-one-half, twice, and even thrice that spent for books, serials, and binding. It was the feeling that these figures were of sufficient value to secure them for a series of years and thus find the average.

Mr Goodrich of Dartmouth read extracts from a survey report with conclusions reached on plans for a new library. It was interesting to note many points of agreement with Prof. Collier's talk of the day before; e g, the department libraries to be considered part of the main library and books placed there are on a basis of a temporary loan. This report faces the problem of providing a library for a college which does very little university research work, and outlined its main propositions to make the books available, to provide cultural value, and to make the building an inspiration. With a student body of 2000 now, it proposes the main reading room to seat 200 to 250 readers, with a lower ceiling than usual and with book alcoves in order to give it a more club-like atmosphere. Next it would provide a students' reading room seating 50 to 75 where smoking would be allowed; also a special room for reserved books, another for periodicals; as seminars there would be "divisional reference rooms," but no department libraries, recitation rooms, or administrative offices. Private studies would be provided, and cubicles in the stack. The delivery hall would be a feature, with a chance to include there exhibits of interest to the students.

H. G. Rugg of Dartmouth presented the problem of "modernist" literature and art which has been asked for by students and instructors there, such as the magazine *The Broom* and Kreymborg's works. It was felt that this might be provided in a small way, but more as samples than a diet.

Another topic discussed at some length was: Shall we buy new titles (of fiction especially) or duplicate the standard books? This brought out policies in selecting and buying and of bringing forth from the stack the worth while books, and of bringing them to the attention of students.

The subject: Serials in N E College libraries; how can we know our resources? developed the expense entailed in publishing union lists. Four libraries in the Connecticut valley in Massachusetts, Amherst college, M.A.C., Mt. Holyoke and Smith had material prepared but were not intending to publish it. The query arose as to the best method to get such information to other libraries, whether by card deposits, or mimeograph lists, or by printed union lists. This brought out the various possibilities of union lists: by city, section, region, or nation; and the various propositions were told of: the Providence list of Technical and scientific serials, the Connecticut list of medical serials, (both published), the announcement of a new Boston list edited by Mr Homer, the chemical list now being checked for the National Research Council, the national union list being fostered by the H. W. Wilson Co.

In discussing the final subject: The binding situation, the most important item developed was, that prices had come down about 25 percent within the last year.

F. K. W. DRURY.

### Library Meetings

**California.**—The meeting of the Fifth district of the California library association was held in Stockton on April 7 with H. D. Parkinson, district president as leader.

The first speaker was Miss Irma Cole of the McHenry public library of Modesto, on the topic "Modesto charging system" in which she told how the borrower's card is eliminated.

"Fiction selection as it might be" by Miss Bessie Silverthorn, librarian of the Stanislaus County free library, pointed out the tendency to get away from restricting books. The discussion which followed, showed much interest in the subject.

H. O. Parkinson was elected nominator for the district, with Miss Alice J. Haines as alternate. The following resolution presented by the San An-

tonio library club was read and unfavorably voted upon.

*Resolved:*—That we most earnestly petition the California library association to amend the constitution and by-laws to allow each district to elect its own president at a regular district meeting, the date of assuming office to be the same as at present.

The press and the library was discussed by R. A. Rea, representative of a local newspaper, who urged closer cooperation between libraries and the press. He suggested that every library have a press agent on the staff.

In "Methods of holding readers," Miss Susan T. Smith talked on displaying books and interesting the public in them.

Miss Cornelia D. Provines advocated branch libraries in school buildings as applied to rural schools.

H. C. Peterson, collector of California history for the State library, gave an illustrated lecture on Landmarks of the state. He stated that the work of his department is to help the people of California designate the landmarks of their state.

ANGELINE ORR,  
Secretary.

**Chicago.**—The annual meeting of the Chicago library club was held at the Henry E. Legler branch of the Chicago public library, on the evening of May 11.

The subject of the evening was Library ideals. It was fitting that such a meeting be held at the Henry E. Legler regional branch, in as much as Mr Legler was a most active exponent of high ideals in the library profession.

Mr Carl B. Roden, librarian of the Chicago public library, gave an address of welcome in which he outlined the progress of the Chicago public library in relation to the establishment of the Henry E. Legler branch, which stands as a symbol for library ideals. Mr Roden spoke of the overwhelming effect of such progress and of the difficulty of meeting the problem of ideals in the face of tremendous details constantly in evidence.



He described the purpose of the Henry E. Legler regional branch library as a future repository for the West Side district. He described the architecture of the building, speaking of the simplicity of its Southern Georgian style, and of the difficulties overcome in achieving the desired effect of an appearance of welcome.

He outlined the nature of the cosmopolitan district served by the branch and spoke of the many opportunities for service and growth outside of the present circulation of at least 1000 volumes a day.

Miss Pearl Field, librarian of the Henry E. Legler branch read selections from Mr Legler's book *Library Ideals*.

Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, spoke of her experiences in attendance at public meetings, of the representatives she met there and the ideals they presented. She spoke of the need for continual educational progress in order to maintain real professional ideals.

Mr Utley, librarian of the Newberry library, in relating a story characteristic of Mr Legler paid him a fitting tribute.

The treasurer, William Teal, reported the following:

Balance from previous year, \$300; receipts from dues for the year, \$451; total receipts for the year, \$757. Amount of cash on hand, May, 1922, \$364.

There were 92 new members and 36 resignations during the year. The total membership of the club is now 386.

The following officers were elected for 1922:

President, Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant-secretary of the A. L. A.; first vice-president, William Teal, the John Crerar library; second vice-president, Miss Alice Farquhar, Chicago public library; secretary, Theodore Mueller, University of Chicago; treasurer, Miss Sue Wuchter, librarian, Continental and Commercial Bank.

After a few words of thanks to committees and officers by the president, Miss Watson, the meeting was adjourned.

A social hour followed in which the visitors were shown over the building and refreshments were served.

MARGARET E. ELY,  
Secretary.

**Florida**—The state library association held its third annual meeting in Tampa, April 27-28. Miss Helen Virginia Stelle, librarian of the Tampa public library and also president of the Florida library association, assisted by the Tampa library board, was host on the occasion, and made the meeting an exceedingly delightful as well as helpful one.

It was decided to affiliate with the A. L. A. and the Southeastern conference of librarians. And of course, the association determined to continue to work enthusiastically for a State library commission in Florida.

Miss Stelle declined to consider re-nomination to the presidency of the association.

The new officers, chosen at the Tampa meeting for the next year are as follows: President, Louise E. Gamsby, Ocala public library; first vice-president, Cora Miltimore, University of Florida, Gainesville; second vice-president, Elroy McKendree Avery, New Port Richey library; secretary, Mrs S. Arthur Davies, Dunedin library association; treasurer, Joseph F. Marron, Jacksonville public library.

One of the features of the meeting was a "best poster contest," instituted by Miss Stelle of the Tampa library. The prize, offered by the Tampa library also, was awarded to the Public library of Miami.

An address by Miss Marian M. Pierce, on Keeping in touch with the profession, gave a source of helpfulness, such as library meetings, library literature, library periodicals, etc. Reviews of non-fiction, showing tendencies in modern literature, were most interesting. The books reviewed were: City homes on country lanes, Mrs R. F. Conover; Mystic Isles of the South Seas, Miss Cora Miltimore; Post-war fiction, Mrs R. A. Ellis; Modern drama, Mrs Ralph Martin; Queen Victoria, Miss Mary H.

Jenkins and Glands regulating personality, Mrs F. A. Howze.

At the close of the session, an automobile drive around the city was greatly enjoyed. In the evening, a Spanish dinner at the Plaza cafe was a delightful feature, the librarians being the guests of the Tampa library board.

The second day of the meeting opened with a library administration round-table, at which binding and mending were demonstrated and discussed. The remainder of the morning was devoted to discussion of registration of out-of-town residents, winter residents, proper fees, over-due books, lending routine, inventory and restricted books.

After a business session in the afternoon, a story hour in charge of Miss Marian M. Pierce was very much enjoyed.

All the meetings were held in the lecture room of the Tampa public library.

SERENA C. BAILEY.

**Mississippi**—The sixth annual meeting of the Mississippi state library association was held in the State Capitol, Jackson, Miss., May 4-5.

An interesting program was presented, the following being given: Value of co-operation, Mrs A. K. Hamm, Meridan public library; College libraries, Miss Alice Mayes, University of Mississippi; Recruiting for librarianship, Miss Beulah Culberson. In the afternoon, a very interesting address was delivered by Dr E. P. Gaines, A. and M. College, on How to get people to read good literature. This was followed by a round table on various phases of library service.

The association went on record as favoring some form of certification and also approving the meeting of the librarians of the Southwest.

On May 5, Mr Henry M. Gill of the New Orleans public library delivered an address touching on every phase of library work.

The session was the best two days in the history of the association. The future outlook for library work in the state is very bright.

MRS W. F. MARSHALL.

**New York City**—The final meeting of the year of the N. Y. Special Libraries association was held on May 16. The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York had thrown open the Great Hall as a reception room for the guests. After all had arrived we ascended to the dining hall on the top floor of this very attractive building where we were served a splendid dinner. The dining room and tables were very attractively decorated with wild flowers. Irving T. Bush, president of the Chamber greeted the association and welcomed us. In this short address of welcome Mr Bush ably illustrated by references to a recent visit in Vienna the permanency of the treasure which the library has as compared to the fleetingness and fluctuation of the economic treasure or currency. The president of the association responded with an appreciation of this hearty welcome. A word of explanation concerning the Union subject catalog was also made at this time.

Dr Luther Gulick, director of the National Institute of public administration, by means of many fables set out clearly the most essential reasons for the recording of civic experience in order that these facts should be available for the public administrators as well as the citizen body itself. We were then favored with a charming talk by Dr John H. Finley of the *New York Times*. He stressed the importance of the library as the best means of education for the adult.

The Civic group which arranged and carried out the plans of this meeting which is perhaps the most successful of the year is entitled to the thanks of the entire association. During the course of the dinner, the retiring president was presented with a fully equipped auto lunch case as a gift of the association. Miss Rankin turned over to Miss Frances S. Cox, the incoming president, the reins of the association and Miss Cox graciously assumed the chair.

REBECCA B. RANKIN,  
President.

**Oklahoma**—The fifteenth annual convention of the Oklahoma library association was held in Muskogee April 25-26. In addition to the 36 registered delegates, the association was fortunate in having present two visitors from Arkansas and three from Texas. The out-of-the-state visitors were Miss Dorothy Amann of Dallas, Miss Lillian Gunter of Gainesville, Mrs. Nora Key Weems of Sherman, Miss Jim P. Matthews of Fayetteville and Miss Ethel Kellar of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

The first afternoon session was given over to the discussion of work with children. Miss Alice I. Hazeltine of St. Louis spoke most helpfully on "The selection of books for children" and answered many questions on this subject. Miss Myra S. Grosh, children's librarian of the Tulsa public library, discussed "The story hour in the library," saying that stories should be told to small groups and preferably by someone from the library staff, always with the purpose in view of encouraging the reading of the books from which the stories are taken.

After the afternoon session adjourned, there was an automobile ride provided by the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce. The visitors were treated to the beautiful view of Muskogee and the surrounding country from the top of Agency Hill, just outside of Muskogee, and stops were made at the West high-school building, where the West High-School glee club sang and where the public library station was visited and to the Oklahoma school for the blind where there was an interesting demonstration of reading from Braille type.

At the evening program, which followed a dinner given by the Muskogee public library, Mrs. J. R. Dale, secretary of the Oklahoma library commission, spoke briefly on library conditions in Oklahoma. Miss Hazeltine spoke on the importance of children's work in the library and told the "Story of Alexander Jones," a nonsense story which was much enjoyed. Miss Ada J. McCarthy, of Madison, Wisconsin, then

discussed "Library progress in the United States," outlining the five outstanding phases of library development about which much is being heard at present, namely: County libraries, Certification of librarians, the high-school library, the attitude of the public toward the library, and the attitude of the librarian toward the public.

The roll call on Wednesday morning, which was answered by brief reports on "The best thing my library has done this year," brought forth interesting items and news of library progress throughout the state.

Mr. Arthur R. Curry, reference librarian of the University of Oklahoma, spoke on "The evolution of the county library," giving its history from the beginning of the county library movement to the present time. Miss Lillian Gunter of Gainesville, Texas, then gave a most interesting account of the status of county library work in Texas, with special emphasis on the work of her own library in Cook County. This was followed by discussion of county library work in Oklahoma, and it was felt that this is one of the important things to which attention should be given by the librarians of the state.

At the afternoon session, Miss Ada J. McCarthy led an interesting round-table discussion on library methods, and after the adjournment of the afternoon session, the members of the association were taken to the plant of the Motter Book-binding Company, an interesting visit, where tea was served.

Among the matters of business which were discussed, was the formation of a Southwestern library association, to be composed of the states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Arizona, New Mexico and the northern part of Old Mexico. It is thought that such an organization would do much toward encouraging library development in the states mentioned. This plan was presented to the association by Miss Dorothy Amann, president of the Texas library association, and, after some discussion, it was voted that a committee be appointed,

of which the president shall be chairman to attend the Texas library association meeting at Austin next fall, and it is hoped that at that time something definite may be done toward the forming of an organization.

The association voted to affiliate with the American Library Association on the new basis and Arthur R. Curry was appointed chairman of the committee of 10 members to request affiliation. Miss Ruth E. Hammond of Muskogee was elected delegate to the A. L. A. Council and Mrs Cora Case Porter of Enid was elected alternate.

The following members were appointed a committee to coöperate with the A. L. A. committee on recruiting for library service: Mrs J. R. Dale, Miss Ruth E. Hammond and Miss Alma Reid McGlenn.

A committee, composed of Mrs J. R. Dale, Miss Alma Reid McGlenn and Arthur R. Curry, was appointed to study the question of county libraries and to take such action as they found possible toward the passage of adequate legislation providing for the establishment of county libraries in Oklahoma.

The annual dues were raised to \$2 a year.

The next meeting of the association will be in Chickasha.

The following officers were elected:

J. L. Rader, Norman, president; Mrs Cora Case Porter, Enid, first vice-president; E. C. Wilson, Ada, second vice-president; Eliza J. Rule, Chickasha, secretary; Sarah A. Noble, Tulsa, treasurer.

**Rhode Island**—The Rhode Island library association held its nineteenth annual meeting at Watchemocket library, East Providence, May 5. A feature of the session was the "Roll-call" of libraries in the state, at which in a delightfully informal way many librarians responded, reporting some event of the year, such as the increased appropriation by the state under the new law granting state aid; the doubling of the appropriation by the city in one instance from \$500 to \$1000;

money raised in the community toward a fund for a new building; money raised for books; gratifying increase in circulation; holding a story hour for children; a duplicate pay collection; the publication of the list of "Technical and scientific serials in the libraries of Providence," and many others, all showing that R. I. libraries have been reaching a greater public and giving more efficient service.

Among reports of committees, that of the Recruiting committee related gratifying progress. The most practical method has been to present librarianship as a profession to the high schools and colleges in the state. Nine schools have already been addressed, following the plan prepared by the chairman, Professor F. K. W. Drury, printed in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* April, '22. It is the purpose of this committee to continue to bring this subject to the attention of educators in the state.

A resolution was unanimously adopted as follows:

Whereas the present General laws of the State of Rhode Island authorize the State Board of Education to establish rules . . . regulating the management of such (free public) library so as to secure the free use of the same to the people of the town and neighborhood in which it shall be established

Resolved: That the Rhode Island library association in annual meeting assembled, May 5, requests the State Board of Education to issue certificates of recognition or pass-cards to the librarians of such libraries and to other librarians in the state who may apply, basing them upon regulations to be drawn up by the State Board.

Resolved further: That the Rhode Island library association proffers its coöperation in this matter if the State Board of Education desires to call upon it.

Miss Lucy D. Waterman in her talk on work with the blind, urged all libraries in the state to locate the blind, get in touch with the home teachers, (Rhode Island has two), who will teach those too old to go to school, in their own homes, to learn to read, and see that the younger blind are taught at the nearest State institution.

Frank H. Chase related what has been done in the Boston public library toward "getting together" in

library life. A library club with over 400 members has been formed and meetings are held which are helpful in bringing together in an informal way, many who would otherwise not become acquainted and in creating a professional point of view, leading toward the betterment of library service.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: President, George L. Hinckley; first vice-president, Francis K. W. Drury; second vice-president, Mrs Howard W. Farnum; corresponding secretary, Gertrude E. Robson; recording secretary, Marion L. Arnold; treasurer, Laurence M. Shaw. Executive committee, the officers, and Stella E. Whittaker, William D. Goddard, Basil B. Wood.

**Washington.**—The campaign for county libraries in Washington and Idaho was pushed forward several notches at the session of the Inland Empire Teachers Association held in Spokane on April 5, 6, and 7.

As representatives of the Library department of the association, Mr George W. Fuller and Miss Gladys Smith, of the Spokane public library, gave short talks urging support of county library legislation, at seven different sectional or departmental meetings, including the Council of Teachers of English.

At the 1921 session, the Library department had voted to request the Council of Teachers of English to appoint a standing committee on school libraries, to coöperate with the Library Department. This they gladly did, making Miss Lucile F. Fargo the chairman. At the meeting of the Council on April 6, she presented a very comprehensive report, printed copies of which were in the hands of her hearers, and which embodied recommendations that the Council, thru its secretary, urge the passage of county library laws in the Washington and Idaho legislatures, and petition the various state departments of education to appoint trained school library supervisors. The report was enthusiastically adopted, and, together with Miss Smith's talk on county libraries, will be published in all the educational magazines of the Inland

Empire states as part of the proceedings of the Council—a most valuable form of publicity.

The only meeting of the Library department as a whole was at a luncheon on the second day of the session, at which Miss Fargo, chairman of the Department, presided. At this meeting, Miss Mable Collins, was elected chairman for the coming year, and Miss Marie Hardy, was re-elected secretary, both of Spokane.

The program of toasts was arranged in the form of a parody on the *Spoon River Anthology*, called "The Spook-anthology." The chairman read a prologue entitled "The Shelflist," and introduced each speaker by reading his "epitaph" and recalling him from the far side of the Styx by means of an appropriate "call number." The speakers were: Dr A. H. Upham, president of the University of Idaho; Dr Robert Max Garrett, professor of English, University of Washington; Mr Bernard F. Hemp, representing Allyn & Bacon, publishers; Miss Mable Collins, representing a local bookstore; and Miss Dorothy Knight, a student from a local high-school. Each responded in the "spirit" of the occasion, giving clever discussions of libraries and librarians as they had known them when in the land of the living. President Upham especially delighted the librarians present by his graphic description of the punishments prescribed in the next world for various "library pests," namely, the "chatterer," the "marginal annotator," the chronic "forgetter," the "ventilation bug," and the common "crab." He also reported the lengthy and heated discussions he hears among the shades of Dr Johnson, Montaigne, and other worthies, on that perennial question "The democratization of our libraries."

A. MARIE HARDY,  
Secretary.

#### Coming meetings

The meeting of the New York library association for 1922, will be held at Alexandria Bay the week of September 11. Hotel Westminster will be headquarters.



The rates are \$4 a day, American plan. No other hotel is near. Free use of motor boat for rides among the islands is given by the hotel. The hotel grounds cover 200 acres, with facilities for tennis, golf, boating and fishing.

MARGERY QUIGLEY,  
Secretary.

The Massachusetts library club will hold its annual meeting at the Cliff House, North Scituate, Mass., June 15-18.

The surroundings of the meeting place, set right on the esplanade above the beach, a wonderful location and view, are most attractive. The program is likewise.

The essentials of a good novel will be presented by Mrs Margaret Deland; Leisure hour reading, by Frank H. Chase; Minot's light on fiction, by John Clair Minot, *Boston Herald*; Story telling as a fine art, Mrs Margaret Shipman Jamison; Our likenesses, Miss Rebecca B. Rankin; Library windows, Miss E. Louise Jones; The Literary Review *Reader's Guide*, Mrs May Lamberton Becker, *New York Evening Post*; Poetry for children, Miss Ethel Knapp, Bridgewater Normal school.

Any one interested in library work is cordially invited to attend the meeting of the club.

Plans are being laid for a library convention to be held at St. Joseph, Missouri in October. This will take the place of the annual fall meetings for Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and probably Iowa.

Those advancing the idea do so with the thought that such a meeting may have the combined resources of three or four states whose library problems are much the same, may have the advantages of a wider range of opinion and perhaps the presence of several library experts on the program. The leading discussion will probably be on the establishment of county library systems. Both Missouri and Kansas legislatures have passed laws providing for the maintenance of county libraries. Nebraska has had a county library law for some time,

but none of the three states has as yet established county libraries.

The meeting will last three days or probably longer, and it is expected that 250 persons will be in attendance.

### Indiana Library Week

The period of April 23-29 was nominated as Indiana Library Week, under the leadership of the Indiana Library Trustees' association, at its annual meeting last fall. The idea was to set aside this week as a period of intensive publicity and appeal, when the value, service and needs of the library could be emphasized in every community of the state to the greatest extent.

The Governor of Indiana, himself a library trustee, joined the movement with enthusiasm and issued a proclamation calling on the several communities to observe the week. This, in itself, marks an epoch in the history of libraries. The thought in all the movement thruout the state was to show that the average citizen has a growing interest in the public library and its work.

The result was most gratifying. From one end of the state to the other, enthusiasm, good will and pledged interest were spontaneously offered. From the Public library of Indianapolis down to the smallest hamlet in the state supporting a library, some recognition was given and added interest manifested. The Library commission of the state, boards of trustees and librarians worked indefatigably to bring valuable results; newspapers, churches, business houses, and schools, without number, gave their aid willingly, and it may be assumed without question that library service thruout the state has advanced to no considerable degree by the activities of the various communities.

Lists of books, courses of reading, invitations to come to the library, directions for use, pageants, plays and in fact, every form of approach were utilized in presenting the library to prospective users.

One of the posters used by the Public library at Gary was made from a

picture taken within the library with about 30 children grouped under an American flag, each one holding a placard bearing the name of his race, and under it the legend, "Where the books go!" A group of little boys and girls, made up of most attractive faces of eager, happy youth—Bulgarian, Croatian, Spanish, Jewish, Lithuania, Hungarian, Austrian, German, Mexican, Czecho-Slovakic, Polish, Greek, Roumanian, Russian, Italian, Chinese and Jugo-Slavic—held proudly aloft an emblem of his origin, but each one seeming to speak a word of commendation for the environment in which he found himself.

The activities of the Indianapolis Public library during Indiana Library Week resulted in much good and worth-while publicity. A special feature was the arranging for thirteen window displays in downtown stores. An attempt was made to make the book collection fit the store in which it was displayed, e.g.—technical books in the Merchants' Heat and Light Company window, books on sports in the Spaulding window, cook books in a grocery window and travel books in the Monon Railroad office.

Efforts were also concentrated on newspaper publicity during the week and resulted in 68 items during that week alone. Two branches coöperated in taking over practically all the space in one issue of a community paper. Two or three special feature articles were prepared, including one on the hospital service accompanied by photographs.

"Secrets of the Balkans" is the title of a very personal, intimate and interesting account of the experiences of Charles J. Vopicka, late United States minister to the Balkans during the period of the war. The book reveals interesting inside information as to the handling of the complexities of the United States with the combating nations both before and after the war. While the official account will doubtless be a matter of record in time, Mr. Vopicka's book has a personal touch which gives it an added interest.

### Interesting Things in Print

The Boston public library has issued a list of the *modern Italian books on its shelves* which may be borrowed.

The New York state library has issued a list of books in the library for the blind, (1919-1921) as a supplement to *Bibliography Bulletin* 63.

The H. W. Wilson Company has issued a new edition of *Suggestions for the care and use of pamphlets and clippings in libraries*, by Philena A. Dickey. This treatise has been practically rewritten and somewhat enlarged and contains some very helpful material for library service.

The Bureau of Railway Economics has issued a revised list of references on automatic train control. This includes discussions of special subjects as well as descriptions of particular devices.

The catalog of spring publications of P. J. Kenedy & Sons may be considered an authentic source of information in choosing books for Catholic readers. Not only are the doctrinal books of the church included but bibliographical material on dignitaries and other prominent people are given, as well as books approved by the church for general reading.

A new edition of the *Township Library List* has been issued by the State department of education, Madison, Wisconsin, under the title, *List of Books for School Libraries in the State of Wisconsin*. In addition to the classified and annotated list of books, the pamphlet contains a simplified form of the D. C. for children's books. There is a title index, and a general index, which add much value to the work.

The *Open Road* for May contains an article, *Librarianship, a new profession and what it offers to men*, written by Charles H. Compton, assistant librarian in the St. Louis public library.

Mr Compton's article is one of the most enlightening articles that has been printed on this subject and contains, more than any other, a strong appeal to men. Some very interesting illustrations are given in the article.

A recent article on Insurance libraries by Catherine Van Dyne, librarian of the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, New York City, gives some very interesting information concerning this class of special libraries in the United States.

There are 25 insurance libraries in all, nine of which are in New York City. The Insurance library of Boston is probably the most complete library of the literature of fire insurance and fire protection in the world. The Prudential Insurance Company of Newark, N. J. has more than 200,000v., with millions of items filed for ready reference.

Miss Van Dyne's article is replete with interesting statements and appeared first in *Service* of November, 1921 and in the *Economic World* for December.

### Book Notes

The general public may not be aware that the Laundryowners national association maintains a department of chemical engineering at the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, University of Pittsburgh. The publications resulting from this research should have a wide circulation, for two reasons: first, to raise the standard of work in commercial laundries, and second, to win confidence for the scientifically operated laundry.

"The conservation of textiles," a book of 162 pages including an index, by H. G. Elledge and A. L. Wakefield, has chapters on fibers, fabric weaves and colorings that explain weaknesses or wearing qualities of garments in the laundering process. Other chapters on corrosive materials and treatment of stains add greatly to the practical value of the book.

A "Manual of standard practice for the power-laundry washroom," a pamphlet of 112 pages with index, deals with the factors of successful laundering, as water, alkalies, soap, bleaching agents, sours, and blues in understandable language but chemical exactness.

Both of these publications will fill a need in libraries and will be of practical help to the home laundress as well as the power-laundry.

The *Erie Railroad Magazine*, conducted by that road in the interest of its employes, has been having a "favorite author contest" among the employes, during the past month.

One thousand printed post cards with blank spaces for the names of the most popular living authors were distributed from the offices, and the voting was confined strictly to Erie employes. Each one was asked to name first, second and third choice.

Mr W. F. Hooker, editor of the magazine, in announcing the winners of the contest said:

"The result indicates that there is a widespread interest in literature among Erie men and women, and while the contest for books showed that the choice was largely confined to writers of Western fiction, it included, also, writers of other kinds of stories."

It is interesting to analyze the result as shown by the following:

James Oliver Curwood.....	71	32	26
Zane Grey.....	35	35	33
Peter B. Kyne.....	20	27	47
Harold Bell Wright.....	14	16	19
Gene Stratton-Porter.....	14	4	14
E. Phillips Oppenheim.....	13	13	9
Ethel M. Dell.....	13	17	7
Rudyard Kipling.....	11	16	4
Kathleen Norris.....	8	11	13
Mary Roberts Rinehart.....	8	5	11

About 60 other authors were named, including Tarkington, Cobb, Doyle, Parker, Bacheller, Arnold Bennett, Caine, Churchill, Gibbs, Crane, Deland, Maupassant, Fox, Garland, Hutchinson, Hughes, O. Johnson, J. Lincoln, Locke, Wells, Weyman and Wharton. Only two names out of the 70 could be barred as writers of no value.

The Patent Lawyers association of Cleveland, Ohio has pledged \$1000 to the Public library of that city for binding the reports and specifications of the U. S. patent office. As a matter of economy, for the past several years, these publications have been issued unbound.

### Compton's Pictorial Encyclopedia

Librarians will find Compton's Pictorial Encyclopedia a most satisfactory item for the shelves of the juvenile departments, and it is just the thing to recommend for home purchase in answer to the frequent inquiry from parents as to "What to buy for the children." It seems to me, beyond question, the best thing of its kind that I have examined.

A specially good thing is the way the experts have popularized their presentations. The really great men in science and history who have contributed to it have had full regard in their writing for a child's capacity for comprehension. There is a notable distinction in the tone and freshness of all articles. The style is easy, rather "friendly" and has a personal appeal that is charming. A unique feature is the excerpts from leading works of popular or great writers included in the volumes. It is completely up-to-date in its informational material.

The judgment used in allotting space to material seems unusually good. Where a subject is fairly new or extensive in relations, sufficient space is given to present it satisfactorily. Where it is merely a restatement of well-known facts, a definition or location, the entry is made in the *Index of Facts* (v.8)—a mere statement, brief and to the point.

The makeup of the book is most attractive. It has good type and paper, it is splendidly illustrated, its diagrams are clear, and the pictures delightful. Children will love it and its appeal to grown-ups will not be less attractive. M. E. A.

### Our World

Of the making of periodicals there is no end. The paraphrase is as true literally as its source.

The year 1922 is bringing its quota of new periodicals no less in number than usual despite the sad situation in the printing arts and the paper trade.

A recent magazine which appeals very strongly to those whose minds and souls are gripped by these unstable days in the civil and political life of mankind, has been started by a new firm

made up of Herbert S. Houston, A. Eugene Bolles, Edwin Muller and other forward looking men, under the name of the Houston Publishing Company, New York. It is under the editorship of Arthur Bullard, for many years on the editorial staff of *The Outlook*. Mr Houston was for 20 years vice-president of Doubleday, Page & Company and has long been recognized as a valuable force in international relations on humanitarian and economic grounds.

The title of the new monthly is *Our World* and its field of endeavor will be no less confined than the name implies, as it presents to its readers the ways, ideas, and movements of the peoples of the earth in contributions from those in the midst of the movements and charged with the interpretation of their meaning. The magazine will be issued in connection with the Institute of International Information and will have the cordial support of the director of the Institute, Dr Wallace W. Atwood, president of Clark university, Dr Harry A. Garfield, president of Williams college, Chief Justice Taft and of the 11 great organizations which make up the Institute, enrolling the leading minds of the world today in every phase of human endeavor.

The first number appeared in April. Its contents follow closely the plan and purpose set out in the prospectus in a notable list of contributors, such as The human side of affairs in the Balkans, by Dr Zimmern; The Washington conference, by E. G. Lowry; Financial conditions in Switzerland, by Louis Schulz; a "near up" picture of Pope Pius XI, by Luigo Barzini and other topics of the hour by writers who know personally of what they write—Simon Strunsky, Robert Underwood Johnson, Hilaire Belloc and W. W. Atwood, names which stand for favorite material in the reading world.

While this first number of *Our World* is not unlike other publications of its class, it has a new note of belief and hope that will cheer the reader who is so often bewildered in trying to find out the truth.

### A New Catalog Code\*

This code of rules is a revision of an earlier one prepared by Miss Fellows, which was issued as *New York State Library School Bulletin 36*. In the preface Miss Fellows says: "These directions were first prepared to save time previously devoted to note-taking in class, and to furnish fuller information than could be given in class or otherwise provided in the limited time devoted to the course, with a view to furnishing not only the instructions necessary for class exercises, but a compilation useful for reference in later work."

The present volume, while based primarily on the edition published in 1914, is also based on the A. L. A. catalog rules, 1908, Cutter Rules for a dictionary catalog, 4th ed. 1904, and the Library of Congress rules. In many cases, one must consult the texts of these rules to find the necessary information: (e.g. Rule 59k. Surnames with prefixes, refers to A. L. A. rules, Section 26.)

Preceding the text of the rules, are extracts from an address by William Warner Bishop, entitled: "Cataloging as an asset." These extracts emphasize the value of the catalog as a tool for librarians and the value of a thorow knowledge of cataloging in all branches of library work.

The book is a comprehensive treatment of the fundamentals of cataloging. Recognizing the minor differences in details of cataloging which would be encountered by students upon leaving the school, the author has suggested alternative methods in almost every case. In order to make the book especially useful as a text-book for advanced classes, the most complete detailed rules and sample cards have been given. For use in Summer sessions classes where the needs of the smaller libraries are emphasized simplified rules and sample cards have been given.

The order followed is that in which the topics have been presented in the

New York State Library school, but any particular rule is easily found thru a most complete and accurate index.

Under each topic, the author has included definitions, explanatory material, alternative methods, and many sample cards; one set of cards for complete detailed cataloging for college and reference libraries, and another set showing a simplified form to be used in smaller public libraries. In this edition the sample cards have been revised to conform more nearly to the Library of Congress rules; for example, in the earlier edition the collation was placed one centimeter after the imprint, while in the new edition, the collation is placed at the second indentation on the line below the imprint.

Altho prepared primarily for use as a text book in cataloging, the book is also a most complete reference book on the subject. In addition to directions given for cataloging books, the author has included directions for the typing of cards, for the cataloging of art objects, natural history specimens, lantern slides, photograph collections and other miscellaneous material not generally included in works on cataloging. When giving rules for the cataloging of any special material which has been treated more fully in any other publication, reference has been made to that publication. For example, under corporate entries (Rule 138) altho no rules are given for the cataloging of publications issued by international conferences, congresses, etc., reference is made to the *Guide to the cataloging of the serial publications of societies and institutions*, compiled and edited by Harriet Wheeler Pierson, where such information is given in full. A complete list of such material, arranged alphabetically by author or by subject would have been a valuable addition to the book.

In some cases, the simplified cards have not been simplified as much as they might have been. For example: 1) the initial article of the title is always enclosed in curves. Since the curves are used to show that the article should be disregarded in alphabetizing, the general rule "Disregard the initial article, in al-

\*Cataloging rules with explanations and illustrations, by Dorcas Fellows, instructor in Advanced Cataloging, New York State Library school. 2d. ed. rev. & enl. N. Y., H. W. Wilson Company. 1922. 303p. \$4.



phabeting" could be learned just as easily, as that "the part of the title in curves should be disregarded in alphabeting; 2) when the copyright date is used in the simplified form, the superior c is used without the brackets, and on p. 10, directions are given for placing this superior c in the correct position, by means of a free carriage, when the typewriter does not have a key with a superior c. Since the object of the simplified form of the card is to save time, the c preceding the copyright date might better be typed on the same line with the date, e.g. c1890.

On the sample cards, the call numbers are handwritten, and in rule no. 16d, the author gives as the reason for this method: "in case of a long number, the size of the characters can be adapted to the space available. . . also, call numbers can be made more conspicuous if put on by pen." Libraries of all types so commonly use the typewriter, and the typewritten characters are so much more legible than the hand written characters that can ordinarily be produced, that this reason seems scarcely sufficient.

One serious omission for catalogers in college and reference libraries is that of any references to the cataloging of university theses and doctors' dissertations. Rules and sample cards for surnames with prefixes are also omitted. Rule 59k merely refers to A. L. A. rules section 26, and gives only one sample card, a reference card from the prefix "De."

These omissions and criticisms, however, are all of minor importance, when the unusual general excellence of the book is considered. The book can not be too heartily commended to all instructors in cataloging and to all catalogers. Because of its clearness of presentation, its definitions and its excellent sample cards, it will no doubt be the standard text-book in cataloging for many years. The publication of so good a text book will tend not only to standardize the cataloging instruction in the various library schools, but will tend to give additional recognition to cataloging as a serious subject of study.

ETHEL BOND.  
University of Illinois Library school.

### Library Schools

#### Carnegie Library of Atlanta

Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant-secretary of the American Library Association made a visit to the Atlanta school, May 12-13, giving four lectures to the class. Three of these lectures presented the special privilege and opportunity of the children's librarian, the demonstrable worth in the life of the community of library work with children, and standards in children's library work as illustrated in some American libraries. In the fourth lecture, Miss Bogle gave a comprehensive account of the work of the American Library Association, showing the scope of the work by giving an interesting summary of one day's mail at Headquarters. On Friday afternoon, tea was served by the class to the staff of the library and the local librarians who were given this opportunity to meet Miss Bogle.

On May 15-16, Miss Martha Wilson, librarian of the Public library of Springfield, Illinois, lectured to the school on school libraries. Miss Wilson chose the following topics: A survey of school libraries and librarians, The public library and the school, and Administration of the school library. The class very much enjoyed also Miss Wilson's informal talk on Vachell Lindsay and some of his distinguished guests in Springfield.

Miss Virginia Bowman, '16, has returned to the children's department of the New York public library to assist in the office of Miss Annie Carroll Moore during the absence of Miss Moore and the illness of Miss Anna Tyler.

Miss Florence Eiselle, '17, has been appointed librarian of the Texas Oil Company, Port Arthur, Texas.

Miss Genevieve White, '18, has accepted the position of librarian of Agnes Scott College library, Decatur, Georgia, her work to begin in September.

SUSIE LEE CRUMLEY,  
Principal.

#### Los Angeles

The last week of April was spent as usual in visits to southern California libraries. Pasadena, Alhambra, Pomona and San Diego furnished excellent examples of city, county and special libra-

ries as well as libraries in colleges, elementary, normal and high schools. The different methods of administration in libraries for different kinds of readers, and varying in size from the branch of the county library gave an illuminating commentary on class work, and the hospitality offered in each city was much appreciated.

The special lecturers of the month were Alice Tyler, Ethel Sawyer of Portland, Blanche Gardner of Newark, Agnes Melgaard of Minneapolis, Loretto Clark, Alice Scheck and Guy Marion. Miss Tyler spoke inspiringly of the possibilities of library organizations. Miss Sawyer's brief talk was a warning against library snobbishness. Miss Gardner described the Newark picture collection. Miss Melgaard discussed the principles of design and poster making, and each student sketched a recruiting poster which will be developed by a high school class in design. Miss Scheck gave sound advice on library housekeeping based on her experience in branch and business libraries. Miss Clark spoke of the importance of visual education material in libraries and described the outstanding features of libraries, museums and schools in the east. Mr Marion lectured on his experiences in organizing special libraries.

Elza Miller, '18, was married to Warren Blanchard, March 27.

Louise Emmons, '18, was married April 15 to C. Marston Knudson.

Dorothy Brenton, '19, was married April 10 to Natt F. Jamieson.

MARION HORTON,  
Principal.

#### New York public library

The instructional section of the senior work closed May 8. Lectures of special interest in the last four weeks included one on the new American novel by Dr Carl Von Doren, literary editor of *The Nation*, and one by Dean Howard C. Robbins, of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, on the modern attitude toward the Bible, both of these being parts of the course in advanced book selection. James T. Gerould, librarian of Princeton university and Miss Isadore G. Mudge, reference librarian at Columbia university, spoke

in the course in advanced administration; R. G. Tugwell, instructor in economics at Columbia university and Mr C. C. Houghton, assistant secretary of Pears' Publishing Company, in the course in the literature of economics; and Dr L. H. Haney, director of the Bureau of business research at New York university, in the course in special library methods. The students enrolled in the course in art and the book visited the Morgan library.

Discussion of various administrative topics occupied much of the time of the juniors through April and May, the assigned work having involved the preparation of exhibits for the library institute which was held on Friday, May 12. This institute enrolled 65 delegates from the libraries of the district adjacent to New York, and gave the students an opportunity to help in planning and carrying out arrangements for the gathering.

Commencement exercises are to be held on the morning of Friday, June 9, the annual meeting of the alumni association being scheduled for the preceding evening. Entrance examinations for 1922-23 will be conducted in New York and elsewhere on Saturday, June 10.

Members of the present classes, including those who are to resume work in their own libraries, are under appointment as follows:—

Helen A. Bagley, as librarian of the Public library, Oak Park, Ill.

Harold F. Brigham, as director of the Free public library, New Brunswick, N. J.

Mildred Brown, as librarian of the Camden County library, New Jersey.

Janet Doe, as reviser at the Library school of the New York public library.

Jean L. Edmonds, as assistant in the Preparation division of the New York public library.

Violet G. Gray, as assistant librarian at the Friends' free library, Germantown, Pa.

Katharine D. Hinman, as assistant in Free public library, New Brunswick, N. J.

Edgar W. King, as librarian of Miami university, Oxford, Ohio.

William D. Lewis, as assistant in the Economics division of the New York public library.

Margaret Markowitz, as assistant in the Circulation department of the New York public library.

Julia Pattison, as librarian of the Public library, Simsbury, Conn.

Marion A. Percival, as assistant in the circulation department of the New York public library.

Anna C. Roberts, as assistant in the Morris County library, N. J.

Aline E. Sanborn, as assistant in the circulation department of the New York public library.

Kaja Stabell, as assistant in the Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Eleanor S. Stephens, as assistant in the circulation department of the New York public library.

Lydie Duproix is to return to work in French libraries under the American Committee for Devastated France.

E. J. REECE,  
Principal.

#### New York state library

Because of the absence of the students during March and the first half of April for the field practice work and library visit, this is the first report from the school since the March issue.

The annual library visit was made this year to New England libraries, April 4-11. In addition to the libraries usually visited in Springfield, Worcester, Boston and Providence, there were added this year visits to Wellesley College library, Library of the Medical school of Harvard university, Massachusetts Historical Society library, New England Historic and Genealogical Society library, Insurance Library Association of Boston, Social Law library and Stone and Webster. The almost perfect weather conditions added to several delightful teas and a luncheon given jointly by the New England Historic and Genealogical Society library and Mr Goodspeed's Book Shop made the visit unusually pleasant.

The following lecturers have visited the school since the last report: William F. Yust, '01, librarian, Rochester public library, who gave six lectures on Library buildings; Mary C. Sherrard, '15, who told of her experiences as a hospital librarian during the war and subsequently; Clara W. Hunt, '98, who gave 10 lectures on Library work with children.

The annual Library institute for the Albany district was held in the Library School rooms on May 19. There were

between 70 and 80 librarians in attendance and for the second time the program was in charge of the school. Mr Wyer, Mr Watson, Miss Eastwood, Miss Smith, Miss Williams and Mr Tolman of the faculty, and the following students, Miss Buker, Miss Jackway, Miss Muench, Mrs Loomis, Miss Reeve and Miss Henry took part in the program. Much interest was shown in the exhibit of the *250 Best Books of 1921*, and some of the more important books of 1922.

The course in advanced cataloging which was made elective last year for the first time is popular with the senior class since practically every member is taking the course. Two graduates of the school who are on the staff and one of the juniors who has had considerable previous experience are also taking it. Miss Fellows is in charge of the course which includes a survey of the various important cataloging codes. Special emphasis is placed on class cataloging and the administration of the catalog department.

Miss Esther Nelson, '06 librarian of the University of Utah, represented the Library school at the inauguration of Dr George Thomas as president of the University on April 5. The members of the educational bodies formed a special group in the procession and were seated on the platform.

The following students have received appointments to positions for the coming year:

Mary E. Martin, '22, assistant, circulation department, New York public library. In connection with her library work she will study at Columbia university for her Master's degree.

Everett V. Spettigue, '22, assistant New York public library.

Helen M. Denton, '23, assistant in the School reference department, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Julian S. Fowler, '23, librarian, University of Cincinnati.

Nancy G. Kobro, '23, assistant, children's department, Cleveland public library, in connection with a course in training for library work with children.

Leah O. Roys, '23, assistant, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dorothy Ruggles, '23, assistant, Public library, Rochester, N. Y.

Kathryn Van Nostrand, '23, assistant in loan and reference department, Public library, Des Moines, Ia.

Ellen F. Watson, '23, first assistant, Reference department Institute library, Wilmington, Del.

EDNA M. SANDERSON,  
Vice-director.

#### Pratt institute

The spring term is largely taken up with practical work in our own and neighboring libraries, there being only two half days of class-room instruction and one devoted to field work.

Among the libraries that have extended their privileges to our students for practical work are the Brooklyn and New York public libraries, Columbia university, the public libraries of Newark, Passaic, East Orange, Englewood and Nutley, New Jersey, Rye, New York, the United Engineering society, the Metropolitan museum, the Girl's high school and the Washington Irving high school libraries. The extension divisions of New York and Brooklyn and the Municipal reference library have offered especially valuable experience.

The students met the class of the New York Public Library school socially before the first of Mr Reece's four lectures on Library buildings, which the school has attended on consecutive Tuesdays during April, and we had the pleasure of entertaining them before the first of Mr Steven's lectures on the History of libraries, for which course the New York school comes over here. We also enjoyed a visit from the Carnegie library school of Pittsburgh on May 4.

We are glad to report that the school has made a hundred percent A. L. A. membership this year. The class of 1921 set an example that 1922 felt it must come up to.

Entrance examinations will be held on Friday, June 2. The applications received so far number twice as many as at this time a year ago, so we feel the prospect for a good class is very encouraging.

Cards have been received announcing the following marriages:

On April 19, Esther Du Pré Royall, '20, to Ferdinand Gregorie, Jr., of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

On April 22, Helen G. Alleman, '14, to Anton von Mengerhausen of Cleveland, Ohio.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### Simmons college

The recent chief events of interest are the visiting lecturers and the visits to libraries.

The Cataloging and Classification courses have been enriched by lectures by Mrs Peck on "Subject headings for psychiatry," Miss Mann on "The pleasures of cataloging and classifying," and Dr Chenery on "L. C. classification of the fine arts." The Special Libraries group has enjoyed hearing Miss Rebecca Rankin speak of the Municipal reference library, and Miss Mann on "The organization of a special library, with the Engineering Societies library as a type." Mr Drury gave "Side lights in order work," and Mr Belden, "State documents." On April 17, Miss Marion Price, who has just returned from Vienna, gave the class an impression of Vienna today.

Visits have been made to the Riverside Press, F. J. Barnard's bindery, both the Brookline and the Newtonville high-school libraries, to the New England Historic Genealogical society, the Massachusetts Historical society, the Massachusetts college of pharmacy, and the Boston medical library.

Miss Howe accepted an invitation from the Maine library association to speak on "Training for library work" at its meeting at Lewiston on May 12. Miss Hopkins represented the library at the meeting of New England college librarians at Providence on May 13. Miss Blunt attended the Atlantic City meeting.

The following students of the class to be graduated in June 1922 have already been appointed to positions:

Helen L. Cowles, reference librarian, New Bedford public library.

Mariam N. Craddock, reference librarian, Oklahoma library commission.

Hope Mathewson, branch assistant, Evansville public library.

Helen C. Robbins, assistant, Frick Art reference library, New York City.

Mildred W. Sandoe, children's librarian, Public library, Savannah, Georgia.

Miss Jessie Harris, librarian of Whittier, California, returns to that library after a year of leave.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

#### St. Louis

Last month, Miss Margaret Reynolds, librarian of the First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee, and chairman of the Publicity committee of the Special Libraries association brought us a message from that association, describing one very live special library in particular.

Another visitor from Wisconsin, Miss Ada J. McCarthy of the Democrat Printing Co. gave us pointers on new blanks and forms with emphasis on details of ordering.

Local speakers were as follows: Dr E. George Payne, principal, Harris teachers college who lectured on Bibliography of education; Dr. George B. Mangold, director of the Missouri school of social economy, on Bibliography of sociology and H. C. Schweikert, head of the English department Central high-school, on American humorists.

The course in order work ended with a visit to Wm. Harvey Miner's book store, a veritable "Haunted Bookshop" with a country-wide reputation. Mr Miner exhibited a number of rarities and gave us pointers on picking up old editions.

Besides the usual Spring pilgrimage to the libraries of St. Louis, the students inspected the exhibition of medical and hospital libraries assembled by the St. Louis public library for the A. L. A. in connection with the meeting of the American medical association.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

#### Syracuse university

The Senior class left Syracuse for its annual visit to the libraries of Washington, New York, Brooklyn and Newark on Friday, April 14. Because of serious illness in her own family Miss Thorne was unable to accompany the

students as had been planned. Miss Doane of the faculty was in charge during the first three days of the trip and Miss Stewart, also of the faculty, for the last three days. Enthusiastic and glowing reports indicate a very successful trip.

On February 23, Dr Paul M. Paine of the Syracuse public library spoke to the school on standardization and certification.

On March 2 and March 16, two very interesting sets of lantern slides on "How we got our alphabet" and "The evolution of the printed book" were shown in the school. Miss Stewart of the faculty gave an informal talk on the pictures, which were of unusual interest.

On March 23, Mr George Cheney, librarian of the Court of Appeals, talked to the school on the material of the law and its arrangement for use. He prefaced the talk with a discussion of the nature of the law and the material constituting its practice and use.

On March 24, Dr Samuel M. Crothers of Boston gave a delightful talk on Sentimentalism in literature as developed in the nineteenth century novel. Dr Crothers was in most genial vein and his address was of unusual significance and interest.

On April 6, Miss Sabra Vought, inspector of School libraries in New York State, addressed the school on school library organization.

On April 10, Mrs Albert Durand (Ruth Sawyer) very delightfully addressed the school on Imagination in literature. At the conclusion of her talk and to the great delight of her audience, she told an Irish fairy tale, the material for which she had personally gathered in Ireland.

The school recently had the opportunity of hearing two very delightful lectures thru the good offices of the Department of English, which were brought here on March 18, Stephen Leacock who gave inimitably a three-part lecture, and on April 4, Carl Sandburg, who read from his own poems and sang a number of folk-songs.

ELIZABETH G. THORNE,  
Director.



**Western Reserve university**

Miss Ahern visited the school on her return from the Atlantic City meeting, speaking on May 5 on Professional aspects of library work. This talk which stressed the fact that zeal and knowledge must join in a suitable proportion in any really professional career, proved very stimulating. After the lecture, Miss Ahern remained for an informal social hour with the students.

Other helpful talks of the month have been given by Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, supervisor of children's work, St. Louis, who spoke on Drama for children on May 4 and on Work with children in the St. Louis public library on May 5. A Special lecture in connection with the cataloging course was given by Miss Sophie Hiss on Organizing the work of a large cataloging department; Miss Elima Foster gave a talk in the Book selection course on Books in religion and philosophy; Miss Alta Claffin of the Federal Reserve Bank discussed Business libraries as a topic in the Library administration group.

From May 10 to 13 the members of the General course visited the Pittsburgh library system. One of many worth while features of the visit was the afternoon spent by the Pittsburgh and Cleveland schools in the well planned new library of Butler, Pennsylvania.

THIRZA E. GRANT.

**University of Wisconsin**

In the spring quarter, courses were given by Miss Julia A. Robinson, secretary of the Iowa library commission in Library administration and by Frank K. Walter, librarian of the University of Minnesota, in Library printing and binding.

An excellent introduction to the study of Documents is being presented by Mr Lester, and the fundamentals of Library building and equipment by Miss Long. The final problem in this topic is arousing great interest, for it includes the making of plans and specifications for the equipment of a high school library, soon to be opened in Madison as a branch of the Public library.

Special lectures have been given by Miss Zona Gale, chairman of the Free library commission, on "The novel and beauty;" by Karl Young, professor of English, on the Bibliography of Shakespeare; by William Heyliger, author of High Benton, on Books for boys; and an illustrated lecture by W. W. Bishop on Large library buildings as a contribution to American architecture.

Already 14 of the 1922 class have received appointments for next year, and five for special work during the summer.

Margaret Greene, '11 has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Minot, North Dakota to accept the position as head of the Deposit Station division under the Branch department of the Seattle public library.

Fannie Cox, '14 became the head of the circulation department, Atlanta public library, April 15.

Sophia Hall, '16 was recently appointed librarian, Municipal information bureau, Extension division, University of Wisconsin.

Alice A. Frost, '19 has become librarian, Junior high school, Long Beach, Cal.

Charles J. Macko, '20 was appointed Reference assistant, department of civics, Chicago public library.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE.

Notice has been received of a course in business library work offered thru the Y. W. C. A., District of Columbia, to be given by Adelaide R. Hasse.

A class in library methods will be conducted by the Connecticut public library commission, July 10-28. The class will be open to all who wish to undertake it. For further information address Mrs Belle Holcomb Johnson, Public library committee, Hartford, Connecticut.

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, is to offer during the summer school, June 20-August 3, two courses in library methods. The first will be a brief course in book selection, classification, and cataloging. The second will be a course on the use of books with special reference to the use of books in high school libraries. Instruction will be given by Louis R. Wilson, librarian, and members of the University Library staff.

## Department of School Libraries

### Learning to Read Books

In the Junior high school at Detroit, the principal, Mr Davis, is keenly interested in the idea of having clubs in the school, to be held during school hours, once a week and to be of the nature desired most by the children. Mr Davis believes in avocational quite as much as vocational training, as they have at Detroit, Radium clubs, Advertising, Astronomy, Dramatic, Salesmanship, Nature, Travel—in all 22 different kinds of clubs, to which all children from the Seventh A through the Eighth A, whose studies average a certain grade, may belong. The periods on the day the clubs meet are shortened to allow for the extra period.

Recently, the librarian organized a reading club, the members being recommended by the English teachers. The first semester the enrollment included 11 boys and 11 girls. The object of the club is to become acquainted with the best books of biography, nature, history, travel, fiction, hero tales, etc. Each month they read a different class of books. Type-written lists of the books for that month are posted on the bulletin board under the section reserved for the reading club. The most worth while of the books on the list are starred. There is also a shelf in the library reserved for these books.

Each child has a note book in which he lists the books he reads and sometimes includes reviews of them. After each book is read a book review or comment of some kind is handed in to the club sponsor. The officers of the club, acting as a literary committee meet with the librarian once a week to go over these reviews and select one or two to be posted upon the bulletin board beside the list. The first list was chiefly fiction, called "books of imagination." Some of the reviews handed in were very good, several

excellent. Five of the reviews were published in the school paper.

"At the second meeting a new list which included books of poetry, ballads and old classic tales was discussed. All but three of the 18 present enjoyed poetry fairly well. One boy said that he would like it if he didn't always know that he would have to memorize or study it for a week. Another child liked poems if they told a story. There were some who liked almost any kind of poem. This was encouraging from the experience of story hours, where the poem has to be sandwiched in between the stories in order that the children will sit through it, and endure, waiting for the next story. Different kinds of poetry were discussed, and Miss Flynn, taking for her topic, the music of poetry, read, to illustrate this, Annabel Lee and Kipling's Boots, (for rhythm). The children were delighted with the latter and several remained at the close of the hour to ask that it be read again. Mr Davis read a favorite poem of his and I read them some of Masefield's Salt Water Ballads and for humor, The Walrus and The Carpenter and for story interest, Björnson's Briary Rose.

We are hoping that when the children's comments on the poems they have enjoyed and the classic tales read are posted, that more of the children of the school will read the books from which they were taken, for after all, the real purpose of the club is to interest all of the children in the school in reading along broader and more worth while lines."

\* \* \* \*

In a pamphlet issued by the Lincoln school of Teachers' college, New York City entitled, Some uses of school assemblies, a very illuminating and interesting account of the work of the library in the scheme of the school, is presented (pages 38-53).

The librarian, in speaking of her work says:

"A school library which is worthy of the name must be a vital part of the school, functioning in connection with every department and not serving merely as a storage place for little used material. The library must provide a working collection of books which shall serve the purposes of pupils and teachers in connection with class-room and laboratory work. Books for general reading that will broaden the interests of pupils and help to cultivate a taste for good reading are an important part of the library. There must be guidance from teachers and librarians to stimulate interest."

Following this, the description of the work of the library is well worth reading: How the library is used in various courses, The making of books and Cost and care of books, are most illuminating.

An interesting part is that under the title a Shelf of books. Children dressed in costume to represent a number of books engage in a discussion of books in general and books suitable for the various grades in particular. This exercise is very instructive as well as interesting.

In a recent address before a group of teachers and librarians of Providence, R. I., the relation of the two educational institutions was discussed. Miss Adeline Zachert, state director of school libraries for Pennsylvania, was the principal speaker. Among other interesting things she pointed out were the following: Miss Zachert asks of each of the heads of schools in her great state several questions and marks him or her up or down according to the answers.

"Have you a school library?" she asks and "what is the training, fitness and salary of your library, if you have one?" is another question. "Does she carry other work?" The answers to these are illuminating.

In some schools, Miss Zachert has found that the librarian carries five other subjects. Sometimes one librarian has to serve 3000 students. Sometimes her salary is for a librarian, and her work is that of librarian and teacher.

"What kind of a library room have you?" is another question. Sometimes the overcrowding has made the library room, a school room. Some libraries are found on the fourth floor, and one was found in a clothes closet. Another in the basement. Above all she deplored the library that is kept locked.

### Book Week in Schools

The week of April 17-21 was devoted to calling attention to books thruout the schools of Pittsburgh. In this there was closest coöperation between Wm. M. Davidson, superintendent of the public schools of Pittsburgh (long well-known in library circles as a man who believes in and forwards the use of books) and the several departments interested, of the Carnegie library. The parochial schools also coöperated with the library.

Significant quotations from various sources, calling attention to the value of books, kinds of books and the joy of books were prepared in a *Special School Bulletin* and distributed thruout all the schools of the city. An interesting feature of this *Bulletin* was a list of favorite books of well known persons when they were boys and girls. This list included Louisa M. Alcott, whose favorite was Scott's *Kenilworth*; Thomas Bailey Aldrich, *Arabian nights*; Andrew Lang, *Midsummer night's dream*, *Lady of the lake*, *Lays of ancient Rome* and *The rose and the ring*; Lucy Larcom, *Scottish chiefs*, *Gulliver's travels* and *Old Curiosity shop*; Abraham Lincoln, *Aesop's fables* and *Pilgrim's progress*; Theodore Roosevelt, *Leatherstocking tales*—*Pathfinder*, *Deerslayer*, *Pioneers*, *Prairie*, and *Last of the Mohicans*; Sir Walter Scott, *The boy's Percy*; Henry Van Dyke, *Don Quixote*, *Plutarch's lives*, *The pirate* and *Rime of the ancient mariner*. An interesting feature of the list was an appraisal of the favorite book by these famous persons, pointing out what it had meant to them to read it.

### "Children's Literature"

Those who were so pleased with the address of Prof Charles M. Curry before the School section of the Midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. will be pleased to know that Prof Curry has just presented, thru his publishers, (Rand, McNally), a volume on children's literature which offers a most valuable and comprehensive source of helpfulness to all who are interested in children's reading—and who is not?

Prof E. E. Clippinger, also associated with Prof Curry in the Department of literature of the Indiana State normal school, has collaborated with him in the preparation of this volume.

Having been prepared by school men, it is natural that this volume should be arranged with a view to its use in educational institutions, but this in no wise lessens its value for library use. The general introduction contains four admirable presentations on literature for children, literature in the grades, story telling and dramatization and a presentation of courses of study involving the presentation of literature in each of the eight grades of the elementary school.

Section I is prefaced with a selected general bibliography on general collections of children's literature, historical development, guides in teaching books, story telling and dramatization, the Bible as literature for children, some interpretations of childhood, and social and psychological background. These bibliographies present the very cream of writers in the interest of children and are valuable tools for the student.

In the ten other sections which follow is given material suitable for the class and grade of pupils using the book: Jingles, nursery rhymes, fairy stories, fables and symbolic stories, myths, poetry, realistic stories, nature stories, romance cycles and legends, biography and hero stories have been skimmed and the cream of that skimming is presented in the 600 pages of material included. The volume closes with a home-reading list, and best of all, an index to all the material.

The authors have prepared in addition a "Handbook for the use of teachers using the volume, Children's Literature." In this, under each heading of the large volume, is given definite instruction for using it and an exposition of the value and purpose of the material cited. The volume Children's Literature in itself, has a most valuable general appeal, but for teachers the volume accompanied by the handbook insures a successful and valuable presentation of work which has not been so generally understood as it deserves.

### Libraries and Commerce

The business librarian can aid in the work of the United States Department of Commerce by sending trade publications to the Washington office of the department; by studying Commerce department publications in the light of the needs of specific business firms, and by supplying the Commerce department, upon request, with unpublished information upon business subjects. These points are brought out in a recent report on "Commercial libraries and the Department of commerce" compiled at the request of the Department of Commerce by a committee of the national Special Libraries association, of which Mr H. H. B. Meyer, chief bibliographer of the Library of Congress, is chairman.

In a foreword to the Committee's report, which was edited by Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., president of the association, it is stated that, "The task which Secretary Hoover has set for the Department of Commerce is a difficult one. During the major part of the relatively short period of this country's economic development there was little opportunity, or inclination, for the systematic collection of facts and statistics. However, the lack of such data at the present time is proving a real handicap in the continued expansion of the nation's business. It is a certain prediction that from now on increasing use will be made of the kinds of information that the federal government is endeavoring to salvage in the highways and by-ways of the world of trade.

### A Poster Contest

A poster display was held the last week in April at McClymond's public library, Massillon, Ohio. The idea grew out of a poster problem which had been given by the art instructor in the Massillon public schools and which occupied the attention of the pupils for several months.

The library turned it into a contest and offered eight prizes to the pupils of the fifth to the eighth grades making the best posters boosting the library. Judges noted for special fitness were selected to pass judgment on the display. Their decisions were made from the layout of the poster, the excellence of the lettering and the neatness. The judges were impressed with the originality, layout and color scheme of the posters and found it difficult to decide as well as to realize that such excellent work had been produced in the public schools.

The first prize in the eighth grade was taken by a portrait of Lincoln, with the slogan, "He would have used McClymond's public library—Why should not we?" The first prize in the seventh grade was awarded to a figure of a batter, with its slogan, "Bat the library into first place." In the sixth grade, the first prize was given for a poster of a mother and child, with the inscription, "Getting ready for the story hour." The first prize in the fifth grade was awarded to a poster of a girl reader, with the slogan, "Get an education free—At the library." There were more than 60 posters in the display, a large number of them with humorous slogans.

The event created wide-spread interest, much of which carried over for weeks after the exhibit, and some has remained permanently.

Already there is talk among the pupils in the art department of what they expect to do for an exhibit next year.

The prizes were handsomely illustrated books from which the pupils winning first prizes were allowed to make a choice.

### News from the Field

#### East

Caroline M. Hewins, librarian of the Public library of Hartford, Connecticut, spent March and April in Italy and England.

Edna A. Wells, Simmons '13, has resigned her position at the Pennsylvania State college library. Her address after June, will be 255 Montauk Avenue, New London, Connecticut.

Carl W. Hull who has been in charge of the library service in the Army Area headquarters at Boston has been made librarian at Millinocket, Maine. This is a town devoted entirely to manufacturing of paper, with thousands of employes for whom the library is to be maintained.

Clarence E. Sherman, since 1917, librarian of the Public library of Lynn, Mass., has been chosen assistant librarian of the Public library of Providence, R. I. Before going to Lynn, Mr Sherman was assistant librarian at Amherst college. He will take up his new duties about August 1.

At Sprague House branch of the Public library of Providence, R. I. a "bird contest" was held the last week in April. A chart of different birds was posted and the children required to find the names of each of the birds and answer certain questions relating to them. A large number of children became interested in the contest and much useful information was disseminated.

The Donald G. Mitchell Memorial library which has been maintained by an association for a number of years in New Haven, Connecticut, has been presented to the Public library of that city. The gift includes the library building and its contents and will serve as a branch of the Public library. The name, the Donald G. Mitchell Memorial library, will be retained in honor of the distinguished author who lived in that community for a large part of his life.

The Redwood library, Newport, R. I., is looking forward to the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the



granting of its charter, which will be in August. Redwood library claims to be the eighth oldest existing library in this country. Its seven predecessors are the libraries of the following:

Harvard College, 1638; College of William and Mary, 1693; Yale University, 1701; Library Company of Philadelphia, 1731; Carpenters' Company, Philadelphia, 1736; American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, 1743 and Princeton University, 1746.

The Public library of New Bedford, Mass. records a circulation of 543,739v. thru 50 agencies. The population of the city is 129,733 and the number of card holders, 45,726. The number of volumes on the shelves is 176,004. The staff is comprised of 22 persons.

There were four exhibits held in the library during the year and seven lectures. The appropriation for the library is \$51,000, with incomes from endowments amounting to \$18,989. Expenditures for the year amounted to \$68,794, of which \$33,896 was for salaries, \$16,186 for wages and \$7142 for books.

The Forbes library of Northampton, Mass. has received the Benjamin Smith Lyman collection of over 4000 books.

This collection is the result of more than 70 years of collecting by a man who gathered the books, not for the sake of having books, but for what the books contained. The collection contains books on education, travel, science and biography and the transactions of a number of societies of which the collector was a member. The collection is especially valuable in its relation to India and Japan, where the owner lived for a number of years. While in Japan, he was chief geologist and mining engineer. A number of books on Japanese art are particularly interesting and valuable.

#### Central Atlantic

Marion Moshier, Simmons '19, has accepted the position of assistant librarian at the Skidmore school of arts, Saratoga Springs, New York, and will start her new duties in September.

Another library girl, Rumana McManis, has "gone into business." She

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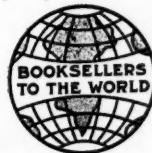
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has taken over The Hidden Bookshop, 9 Nassau street, in the heart of the Wall street district, and is "thoroly enjoying it."

The new building for the Public library of Pottsville, Pa., was dedicated, May 1. The building was open from noon until late in the evening, with the staff members and members of the Board acting as hosts to the throngs of people who came to see the new building. The high school orchestra provided music for the afternoon and another orchestra for the evening.

The cost of the building was \$100,000 and it has capacity for 30,000 volumes.

By an oversight in the "make-up" of PUBLIC LIBRARIES for May, the statistics of the use of the Public library of Buffalo were credited to the Brooklyn public library.

The statistics of the former for 1921 show: Total registration, 160,072; number of books on the shelves, 416,662; circulation for the year 2,049,082.

The statistics of the Brooklyn public library for 1921 are: Total registration, 353,817; number of volumes on the shelves, 956,051; circulation for the year, 6,072,707.

The annual report of the Adriaance memorial library of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. records a circulation of 158,937v.; number of books on the shelves, 60,728; number of active borrowers, 8777. The income for the year amounted to \$17,597. Of this, \$8769 was spent for salaries and \$4734 for books and binding. A grant of \$500 for preserving files of local newspapers was greatly appreciated. An appropriation of \$20,000 by the City council in 1921 and a like sum in 1920, make possible the erection of a much needed addition to the library building.

The report of the Wilmington Institute free library, Wilmington, Delaware, for 1921 records a circulation of 422,076v., 3.74 per capita; books on the shelves, 106,348v., .96 per capita. The library owns and circulates books in eight foreign languages. The number of registered borrowers is 21,639, 19 per cent of the city's population. Restriction

tions in the number of books taken out have been removed.

The total income for the year was \$49,990, 45 cents per capita. Of this, \$48,767, or 44 cents per capita, was expended in maintaining the library, \$28,633 for salaries, \$9768 for books and \$2363 for binding.

#### Central

Emma Wiecking, N. Y. P. L., '20-21, has been appointed assistant librarian in the Normal school at Mankato, Minn.

Gladys B. Allison, N. Y. S., 13-'14, has recently joined the staff of the Illinois Library Extension division, Springfield.

At the April election in Rockford, Illinois, the bond issue for a new branch library was voted for by a good majority and the library authorities are now busy with plans for the building.

Harriet Peck, B. L. S., N. Y. S. '04 librarian of the Rensselaer polytechnic institute, Troy, N. Y., will be one of the instructors in library methods at the University of Michigan summer school.

Miss Lena Adams of Cleveland has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Hoopeston, Illinois. Miss Adams has had experience in the Cleveland library system and will finish the course in the Western Reserve library school in June. She will begin her work in Hoopeston about July 15.

Minneapolis newspapers give the name of Miss Gratia Countryman among those of citizens of that community who have been "worked" by a company known as the International Church Film Corporation, which planned to manufacture religious films for use in the churches throughout the state.

Dr Edwin Wiley, librarian, U. S. Naval War College library, Newport, R. I., has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Peoria, Illinois. He will take up his new duties, July 1.

Dr Wiley has been interested in and engaged in library work for a number of years. His wide range of study and experience, his culture and educational out-

look, will be a very valuable element in the problem of library development in Illinois.

The report of the Public library of Decatur, Illinois for the year ending, April, 1922, records a total circulation of 216,962v. Of this 66,445v., or 30 per cent, was non-fiction. The population of the city is 48,818, and the number of active card holders of the library is 11,919. There are 46,603 volumes on the shelves, 2677 of which were purchased during the year, 300 donated and 48 were books found which had been previously missing.

Miss Margaret C. Norton, Rockford, Illinois, has been made superintendent of the new archives division of the Illinois State library. Miss Norton is a graduate of the University of Chicago, and the New York State library school and has had experience in the Indiana State historical society. For the last year she has been connected with the Missouri State historical society.

The archives division is designed to collect original state records and manuscripts.

The annual report of the Public library of Davenport, Iowa for 1921 records a circulation of 425,718v., an increase of 65,000v.; population, 56,727; registered borrowers, 17,393; circulation per capita, 7.3; expenditures, \$41,274.

The unusual publicity for the year was an exhibit in January of things "Made in Davenport." The articles on display represented more than 50 factories. In August, for the Mississippi Valley fair at the library booth, was arranged an exhibit of Iowa authors and their books. An item of interest was the manuscript for the opening chapters of Hamlin Garland's Daughter of the middle border.

The Public library of Cleveland, Ohio loaned 4,672,252 books for home use, last year, 20.8 per cent over any previous year.

Books are distributed from 787 different agencies, including Main library, Municipal reference library, library for

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the blind, 25 general branches, 27 school branches, 114 stations (deposit, delivery and children's stations) and 618 class room libraries in public and parochial schools, children's institutions and classes for foreigners.

A partial record showed 3,166,611 visitors reading and doing reference work in the libraries, an increase of 19 per cent over last year. The average week-day attendance, 10,219.

The main library was open every day in the year except the Fourth of July.

The adult fiction issued was 31 per cent of the total circulation, and the juvenile fiction, 18 per cent. There was increased use of books in philosophy, religion, sociology, science, technology, fine arts, literature, history, travel, biography, books in foreign languages.

Library club rooms were used for 4,296 meetings, with a total attendance of 77,281.

The five branch library auditoriums were used 259 times, with a total of 20,496 in the audiences.

Members of the library staff spoke to 1,458 classes and audiences, numbering about 64,279 people. This did not include 480 meetings at which the library bond issue was discussed.

The library has maintained its unique record of over half a century, of a *tax-supported institution which has always lived within its income.*

The Indianapolis public library felt quite repaid for its participation in the fifth National flower show held in Indianapolis in March since the *Garden Magazine* for May carried this acknowledgment: "A tribute must needs be added to the Indianapolis public library which displayed meanwhile a rich and up-to-the-minute collection of garden books and magazines, actively encouraging the townfolk to read and learn."

The library shared also in the Indiana health exposition held in Indianapolis, May 17-27, by arranging and supervising a booth illustrating a small children's room. Books of all kinds were displayed but emphasis was of course laid on the health and hygiene collection and a special list of books on this subject was prepared for distribution.

## South

The appropriation for the State library of Virginia in the last Assembly was quite liberal. It includes an appropriation for a library organizer as well as enlargement of material and activities.

## West

The contract for the new library building for the University of Wyoming has been let. The building will cost \$130,000 and is to be finished by the first of December.

Miss Doris Crawford, for some time reference librarian at the Carnegie library of Boise, Idaho, has been appointed librarian to succeed Miss Ruth Cowgill. Miss Crawford is a graduate of the Los Angeles school and was for some time connected with the libraries at Spokane and Lewiston.

Miss Vera J. Snook, for eight years librarian of Reddick's library, Ottawa, Illinois, has resigned her position to become librarian at Libbey, Montana.

Under the administration of Miss Snook, the Reddick library at Ottawa has increased both in preparedness to help, thru the material on its shelves, and in its use to every interest in the community. Miss Snook has been one of the quiet but effective library workers in Illinois and they will greatly regret her absence in future meetings.

## Pacific Coast

Christine Price, Simmons '12, has been appointed an assistant in cataloging in the University of California library, Berkeley.

On May 1, Elizabeth Woodhouse, Los Angeles '20, accepted a position in the circulation department of the Library Association of Portland.

Lelia Hazeltine, Washington '20, has resigned her position as cataloger in the Carnegie public library, Boise, Idaho to go to one of the branch libraries of the Portland library association.

Gabriel A. Bernardo of Manila, P. I., who spent two years in the University of Wisconsin, from which he received a degree, was married in December. Mr Bernardo is in the library

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## THE SECRET ADVERSARY

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By Lucas Malet

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News has been received of the marriage of Miss Julie Rummelhoff and Mr Tse Chiem Tai (N. Y. S. '18), librarian at Tsing-Hau college, Pekin, China. The marriage was performed at St. John's Pro-Cathedral, Jessfield, Shanghai, April 20, 1922.

With the coöperation of Miss Anne M. Mulheron, head of the Portland public library, *The Oregonian* is including bedtime stories for children as a frequent feature of its radio service, on Monday and Friday nights at 7:30 o'clock.

The stories will be told by young women who have made children's stories a pleasant feature of the juvenile department of the Public library. It will be the first time bedtime stories have been sent out by radio in Oregon.

The two million mark in circulation was reached last year in Portland, Oregon, a gain of 326,330, or 19 per cent, over last year.

The book wagon, started in the summer of 1920 as an experiment, had by the end of the season so justified itself that it became evident that better facilities would have to be provided. Two cases of three shelves each with glass doors were provided. One held books for children, the other, books for adults. Weekly trips into the county were made over five different routes and, in addition, stops were made at three of the large city playgrounds. Over 6500 books were circulated during the summer months.

The use of the library as a social center reached 5641 times with an attendance of 154,568.

The experiment of changing the periodical subscriptions from January to July has proved entirely satisfactory. Much better service from publishers is procured and the schools and branches know better after the winter's work what changes should be made.

The library's part in Americanization included personal letters to those taking out papers, entertainment of English classes in night schools and social gatherings for special groups.

The growth in the use of the city high schools has ranged from 31 per cent to 431 per cent in the eight different schools.

Baby clinics were held at four branches, where the Visiting Nurses have their headquarters, and classes in home nursing were conducted by the Red Cross at the three others.

#### Canada

An interesting report made on the Public library of London, Ontario for the Carnegie Corporation, gives some interesting information concerning that library.

London is ninth in population, 60,385, among the cities of the Dominion and ranks among the first four as a library city. The Public library has about 100,000v, with a circulation of 55,192v. The books have been unusually carefully selected, the policy of the library being to make purchases on the recommendation of specialists in different lines. The library has 200 periodicals.

The cost of maintaining the library last year was \$25,700. There is need of a new library building, providing a modern fireproof structure, a larger public reading room, separate children's department and a small auditorium.

It is said that at least 90 per cent of the library's visitors call, not for quiet reading, but for a specific purpose, remaining only a few minutes. A very extensive reference service is maintained.

**For sale**—*Review of Reviews*, 1900-1920, 42v. bound, half leather; good condition. Reasonable price to libraries. Address N. P. Brown, Martin, Michigan.

**Wanted:** Position as high school librarian, in September. Training and experience. Address, Room 200, Tower Bldg., Chicago, Illinois.

**Wanted:** A copy of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh *Bulletin* for November, 1921. (vol.26,bul.no.9) For which we will be glad to pay, or give in exchange a copy for March, 1921.